

"Lift Up Your Heads"

November 13, 2022

As We Gather

When the world seems full of difficult and trouble news, how do we respond? When our lives are marked by difficulty and struggle, how are we to react?

Today we also remember those who suffer specifically for their faith in Jesus. We join with churches around the world in observing a day of prayer for the persecuted church (persecution.com).

In our reading from the Gospel of Luke today, Jesus speaks to His disciples about the troubles coming on the world and in their lives as they seek to follow Him. He concludes His remarks, calling on them to lift up their heads, because their redemption is coming soon.

Welcome

+ Gathering +

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone, my hope is found.
He is my light my strength, my song.
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest droughts and
storm.

What heights of love! What depths of
peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings
cease.
My Comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again.

And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me.
For I am His, and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me.

From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns, or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I stand

I find my strength, I find my hope
I find my help, in Christ alone
When fear assails, when darkness falls
I find my peace, in Christ alone

I give my life, I give my all
I sing my song, to Christ alone
The King of Kings, the Lord of All
All heaven sings, to Christ alone

To Christ Alone
To Christ Alone

'Til He re - turns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand
Here in the pow'r of Christ we stand

Invocation

Confession and Absolution

“Goodness of God”

I love You Lord
Oh Your mercy never fails me
All my days
I've been held in Your hands
From the moment that I wake up
Until I lay my head
I will sing of the goodness of God

Chorus

All my life You have been faithful
All my life You have been so so good
With every breath that I am able
I will sing of the goodness of God

I love Your voice
You have led me through the fire
In darkest night

You are close like no other
I've known You as a father
I've known You as a friend
I have lived in the goodness of God
(Chorus)

Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me
With my life laid down
I'm surrendered now
I give You everything
Your goodness is running after
It's running after me **(Chorus x 2)**

I will sing of the goodness of God

Prayer

Children’s Church

+ Service of the Word +

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-6

“Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the LORD Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them.² But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves.³ Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act,” says the LORD Almighty.

⁴ “Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵ “See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. ⁶ He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

As for other matters, brothers and sisters, pray for us that the message of the Lord may spread rapidly and be honored, just as it was with you.² And pray that we may be delivered from wicked and evil people, for not everyone has faith.³ But the Lord is faithful, and he will strengthen you and protect you from the evil one.⁴ We have confidence in the Lord that you are doing and will continue to do the things we command.⁵ May the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Holy Gospel: Luke 21:5-28

⁵ Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said,⁶ "As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down."

⁷ "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?"

⁸ He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them.⁹ When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away."

¹⁰ Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom.¹¹ There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

¹² "But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name.¹³ And so you will bear testimony to me.¹⁴ But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves.¹⁵ For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict.¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death.¹⁷ Everyone will hate you because of me.¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish.¹⁹ Stand firm, and you will win life.

²⁰ "When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near.²¹ Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city.²² For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written.²³ How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people.²⁴ They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea.²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken.²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You O Christ!

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon

"Lift Up Your Heads"

Offering

"Firm Foundation"

Christ is my firm foundation
the rock on which I stand
When everything a - round me is shaken
I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus,
'cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations,
so why would He fail now

He won't, He won't

I've still got joy in chaos
I've got peace that makes no sense
I won't be going under
I'm not held by my own strength
'Cause I've built my life on Jesus,
He's never let me down
He's faithful in every season,
so why would He fail now

Chorus (2x)

He won't, He won't
He won't fail
He won't fail

Christ is my firm foundation
The rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaken
I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus,
'cause He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations,

So why would He fail now

He won't, He won't
He won't fail
He won't fail

Rain came and wind blew
But my house was built on You
I'm safe with You
I'm going to make it through **Repeat**

I'm going to make it through
'cause I'm stand'n on You
I'm gonna make it through
'cause my house is built on You

Christ is my firm foundation,
The rock on which I stand
When everything around me is shaken,
I've never been more glad
That I put my faith in Jesus,
He's never let me down
He's faithful through generations,
so why would He fail now

Chorus (2x)

He won't, He won't
He won't fail
He won't fail

No, He won't

Prayers

Please add your prayer requests to the chat.

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Petitions

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,
People: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

People: **Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be Thy name, Thy
Kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
Give us this day our daily bread;
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

The moon and stars they wept
the morning sun was dead
The Savior of the world was fallen
His body on the cross
His blood poured out for us
The weight of every curse upon Him

One final breath He gave
as heaven looked away
The Son of God was laid in darkness
A battle in the grave
the war on death was waged
The power of hell forever broken

The ground began to shake
the stone was rolled away
His perfect love could not be overcome
Now death where is Your sting
our resurrected King
Has rendered you defeated

Forever He is glorified
Forever He is lifted high
Forever He is risen
He is alive
He is alive

St. John's People and Families

Ryan, Katie, Tatum, & Teagan Chagonjian
John & Pam Foottit
Shirley Knight
Kennith & Linda Reed
Clay & Bonnie Thompson
Robert, Karen & Liam Chandler
Michael, Ashley, Broder, & Fairen Daw
Dennis, Mandy, & Ruby Kreps
Michael, Sallie, & Juliette Ramsey
Andrew, Kimberly, & Bryson Tarap

"Forever"

The ground began to shake
the stone was rolled away
His perfect love could not be overcome
Now death where is Your sting
our resurrected King
Has rendered you defeated

Forever He is glorified
Forever He is lifted high
Forever He is risen
He is alive
He is alive

We sing hallelujah, we sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah, the Lamb has overcome

We sing hallelujah, we sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah, the Lamb has overcome
We sing hallelujah, we sing hallelujah
We sing hallelujah, the Lamb has overcome

CHORUS (x2)

Forever He is glorified
Forever He is lifted high
Forever He is risen
He is alive
He is alive

Offering

<http://stjohnslutheran.net/give/>

You may also mail your offering to St. John's (3521 Linda Vista, Napa, CA 94558)

Memory Verse for This Week

When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Luke 21:28

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