



“Jesus is Better”

“Remember Those Who Are Suffering”

July 16, 2023

9:30 AM

St. John’s Lutheran Church

Napa, California

*Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ,
His followers, and His world*

As We Gather

We continue our series “Jesus is Better,” a study of the letter to the Hebrews. This letter is actually a written sermon to believers who were struggling with their faith. They were being tempted to go back to a life without Jesus, a life rooted in the unfulfilled promises and pictures of the Old Testament. The writer of this letter seeks to show them in many ways that Jesus is better, not only better than what they had before, but better than everything.

The writer encourages his readers to remember their brothers and sisters in Christ who have been imprisoned and mistreated for their faith. He encourages them to identify with them. The same encouragement comes to us as well. Many Christians in many parts of the world do not have the freedom that we enjoy to live and express their faith. What does it mean to remember and identify with them?

As a courtesy to others, please silence cell phones and other electronics.

Welcome – Announcements – Greeting of Peace

+ Gathering +

“Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus” LSB 685

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,
Follow His example pure,
Through a world that would deceive us
And to sin our spirits lure.
Onward in His footsteps treading,
Pilgrims here, our home above,
Full of faith and hope and love,
Let us do the Father's bidding.
Faithful Lord, with me abide;
I shall follow where You guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus,
And with patience bear our cross.
Joy will follow all our sadness;
Where He is, there is no loss.
Though today we sow no laughter,
We shall reap celestial joy;
All discomforts that annoy
Shall give way to mirth hereafter.
Jesus, here I share Your woe;
Help me there Your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.
Since by death He conquered death,
He will free us from destruction,
Give to us immortal breath.
Let us mortify all passion
That would lead us into sin;
And the grave that shuts us in
Shall but prove the gate to heaven.
Jesus, here with You I die,
There to live with You on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.
He has risen from the dead
That to life we may awaken.
Jesus, You are now our head.
We are Your own living members;
Where You live, there we shall be
In Your presence constantly,
Living there with You forever.
Jesus, let me faithful be,
Life eternal grant to me.

Invocation

Confession and Absolution

“Great Are You Lord”

You give life
You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope
You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

Chorus

It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only

You give life
You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope
You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord

Chorus x2

And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry, these bones will sing
Great are You Lord **Repeat 2x**

Chorus x2

Prayer

+ Service of the Word +

First Reading: Exodus 34:1-7

The LORD said to Moses, “Chisel out two stone tablets like the first ones, and I will write on them the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke. ²Be ready in the morning, and then come up on Mount Sinai. Present yourself to me there on top of the mountain. ³No one is to come with you or be seen anywhere on the mountain; not even the flocks and herds may graze in front of the mountain.”

⁴So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. ⁵Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, ⁷maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Second Reading: Hebrews 13:3

Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel: Matthew 10:16-33

¹⁶ “I am sending you out like sheep among wolves. Therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. ¹⁷ Be on your guard; you will be handed over to the local councils and be flogged in the synagogues. ¹⁸ On my account you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles. ¹⁹ But when they arrest you, do not worry about what to say or how to say it. At that time you will be given what to say, ²⁰ for it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

²¹ “Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rebel against their parents and have them put to death. ²² You will be hated by everyone because of me, but the one who stands firm to the end will be saved. ²³ When you are persecuted in one place, flee to another. Truly I tell you, you will not finish going through the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

²⁴ “The student is not above the teacher, nor a servant above his master. ²⁵ It is enough for students to be like their teachers, and servants like their masters. If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

²⁶ “So do not be afraid of them, for there is nothing concealed that will not be disclosed, or hidden that will not be made known. ²⁷ What I tell you in the dark, speak in the daylight; what is whispered in your ear, proclaim from the roofs. ²⁸ Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹ Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father’s care. ³⁰ And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. ³¹ So don’t be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

³² “Whoever acknowledges me before others, I will also acknowledge before my Father in heaven. ³³ But whoever disowns me before others, I will disown before my Father in heaven.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You O Christ!

The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sermon

“Remember Those Who Are Suffering”

Offering

Prayers

Thanksgivings

Pastor: O Lord, we praise You.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Petitions

Pastor : Lord, in Your mercy,

People: **Hear our prayer.**

ST. JOHN'S PEOPLE & FAMILIES

- Salvador & Shanna Caceres & Madelyn & Abrielle Caceres Reed
- Michael, Lynn, Madison, & Shelby Edmeyer
- Ron & Lois Johnson
- Ruth Peterson
- Brad, Anna, Matthew, & Melissa Seiter
- Rachel & William Caldwell
- Nick, Suzanna, Jarrett, & Rylan Dalessi
- Tod, Jenny, & Amaya Kawachi
- Lisa Zinna, James, Sylvie, & Thomas Peterson
- Matthew, Sarah, & Harrison Tolbirt

+ The Service of Holy Communion +

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life.

Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your gathered people that, faithfully eating and drinking the body and blood of Your Son, we may go forth to proclaim His salvation to the ends of the earth.

The Lord's Prayer

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

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.**

Words of Institution

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

Communion

Pastor: Take, eat; this is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, given into death for your sins.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Take, drink; this is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, shed for the forgiveness of your sins.

People: Amen.

Distribution of Holy Communion

“This Is Amazing Grace”

Who breaks the power of sin and
darkness?
Whose love is mighty and so much
stronger?
The King of Glory, the King above all
kings

Who shakes the whole earth with holy
thunder?
And leaves us breathless in awe and
wonder?
The King of Glory, the King above all
kings

Chorus

This is amazing grace
This is unfailing love
That You would take my place
That You would bear my cross
You laid down Your life
That I would be set free
Jesus, I sing for
All that You've done for me

Who brings our chaos back into order?
Who makes the orphan a son and
daughter?
The King of Glory, the King above all
kings

Who rules the nations with truth and
justice?
Shines like the sun in all of its brilliance?
The King of Glory, the King above all
kings **Chorus**

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquers the
grave

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquers the
grave

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy is the King who conquers the
grave

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain
Worthy, worthy, worthy **Chorus x2**

“Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service” LSB 848

1 Lord, whose love in humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy's perfect deed,
We, Your servants, bring the worship
Not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to Your purpose
Ev'ry gift that You impart.

2 Still your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As O Lord, Your deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
Use the love your Spirit kindles
Still to save and make us whole.

3 As we worship, grant us vision
Till Your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness,
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to tireless striving,
Your abundant life to share.

4 Called by worship to Your service,
Forth in Your dear name we go,
To the child, the youth, the aged,
Love in living deeds to show.
Hope and health, goodwill and comfort,
Counsel, aid, and peace we give,
That Your servants, Lord, in freedom
May Your mercy know and live.

Communion Blessing

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you
in body and soul to life everlasting. His peace be with you.

People: **Amen.**

Prayer

+ Sending +

Benediction

"Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us" LSB 851

1 Lord of Glory, You have bought us
With Your life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessed
'Tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
"You have done it all to Me."
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
"Give as I have giv'n to you"?

4 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your life-blood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

Pastor: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

Offering

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

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

This Week's Memory Verse

Continue to remember those in prison as if you were together with them in prison, and those who are mistreated as if you yourselves were suffering.

Hebrews 13:3

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preacher	Rev. Michael A. Schmid
Lay Reader	Soren De Young
Pianist	Erin Blackwood
Communion Assistants	Andrea Clark, Gerry Schneider, Joel Wahlers
Sound Technician	Bill Clark
Streaming Technician	Josh Wright
Worship Prep	Betsy Gewirz
Ushers	Bev & Clint Holdsworth
Worship Band	Christi & Steve Jeffery, Judi & Steve Rock

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