

August 30, 2020
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost



**“If any want to become
my followers, let them
deny themselves and
take up their cross
and follow me.”**

Matthew 16:24, NRSV

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Introduction

The prophet Jeremiah speaks of the incurable wound of his suffering yet finds in God's words the delight of his heart. When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world.

WELCOME

Confession and Forgiveness

Gracious God,
have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN What A Beautiful Name

**You were the Word at the beginning
One with God the Lord most high
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ**

**What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is, nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is, the Name of Jesus**

**You made a way for us to Heaven.
Jesus You laid Your life down.
My sin was great Your love was greater
What could separate us now?**

**What a wonderful Name it is, what a wonderful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a wonderful Name it is, nothing compares to this
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a wonderful Name it is, the Name of Jesus**

Instrumental Break

**Death could not hold You, the veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring the praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again**

**You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all Names**

**What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus**

**You have no rival, You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom, Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all Names**

**What a powerful Name it is, what a powerful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a powerful Name it is, nothing can stand against
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus
What a powerful Name it is, the Name of Jesus**

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 15:15-21

¹⁵O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the

delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. ²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 26:1-8

¹Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity; I have trusted in the LORD and have not faltered.

²Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

³For your steadfast love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

⁴I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

⁵I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

⁶I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go in procession round your altar,

⁷singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

⁸LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 12:9-21

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.

¹¹Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." ²⁰No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads."
²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16:21-28

The holy gospel according Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord!**

²¹From that time on, after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." ²³But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

HOMILY

HYMN OF THE DAY Wherever He Leads I'll Go

**"Take up thy cross and follow Me, "
I heard my Master say;
"I gave My life to ransom thee,
Surrender your all today."**

**Wherever He leads I'll go,
Wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so,
Wherever He leads I'll go.**

**My heart, my life, my all I bring
To Christ who loves me so;
He is my Master, Lord, and King,
Wherever He leads I'll go,**

**Wherever He leads I'll go,
Wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so,
Wherever He leads I'll go.**

**Wherever He leads I'll go,
Wherever He leads I'll go,
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so,
Wherever He leads I'll go.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Each prayer petition ends

Hear us, O Lord:

In your steadfast love, receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING

The gifts we use and share matter! Thank you for sharing your gifts for the sake of the world. Use the green Give button on our church's website to support our mission of nurturing lives for following Christ.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE BODY OF CHRIST

Let us pray.

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being.

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life with you.

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love.

For your Word of life, O God, we give you thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took a towel and wrapped it around his waist, and washed the disciples' feet, saying: if I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet.

And after supper, when he had gone out, Jesus said to the disciples: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another.

For where two or three are gathered in the name of Jesus, the body of Christ is present, with us always, to the end of the age.

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of a world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.
Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. God, the creator, † Jesus, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit, the comforter, bless you and keep you in eternal love. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN Lord of All

**Lord of all and ruler of nations,
You are God of all the earth.
Let all of Your people praise you
And sing of Your marvelous works.
Every knee shall bow before You,
And every tongue will confess
That You are Lord... of all.
Yes, You are Lord... of all.**

**With every breath that I breathe I will praise You.
With every song that I sing I will praise You.
You are my God and my King, There's no one greater.
For You are Lord... of all.
Yes, You are Lord... of all.**

**Lord of all and ruler of nations,
You are God of all the earth.
Let all of Your people praise you
And sing of Your marvelous works.
Every knee shall bow before You,
And every tongue will confess
That You are Lord... of all.
Yes, You are Lord... of all.**

**With every breath that I breathe I will praise You.
With every song that I sing I will praise You.
You are my God and my King, There's no one greater.
For You are Lord... of all.
Yes, You are Lord... of all.**

Instrumental

We worship You, all glory's Yours
You are the Lord, the Lord of all. (Repeat 4 x)

Oh, oh, oh, oh
Oh, oh, oh, oh

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, nurturing lives for following Christ.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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"What a Beautiful Name"

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"Wherever He Leads I'll Go

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"Lord of All"

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