



I COUNT
EVERYTHING AS LOSS
BECAUSE
OF THE
SURPASSING
WORTH
OF KNOWING
CHRIST
JESUS
MY LORD.

PHILIPPIANS 3:8, ESV

Today's Worship
18th Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2020

Resurrection Lutheran Church, 100 Lochmere Drive W., Cary, NC 27518
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A warm welcome to all worshipping with Resurrection Lutheran Church today. In May of 2020, Resurrection Lutheran Church celebrated forty-two years of ministry. Celebrating our Savior's love continues today in the faithful gathering of God's people, whether we are together in God's house or as you watch online from the comfort of your home.

Lessons and Liturgy Today

Garbage! That's the Apostle Paul's evaluation of everything compared to "the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." Do you consider your faith and relationship to God through Christ Jesus as the most valuable thing in your life, above everything and everyone? Today, St. Paul paints "the big picture" that puts everything into proper perspective. There is nothing else in all creation---no possessions, relationships, or accomplishments---that surpass the blessing of knowing Christ. His sacrifice, death, and resurrection secure for us eternal life, reconciliation with God the Father, and ultimately triumph over sin, death, and the devil.

The Welcome and Sharing of the Peace

P The Peace of the Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

Blessing of the Quilts

Musical Offering, Opening Song: How High and How Wide

Verse 1

*No eye has seen and no ear has heard
And no mind has ever conceived
The glorious things that You have prepared
For ev'ryone who has believed*

*You brought us near and You called us Your own
And made us joint heirs with Your Son*

Chorus

*How high and how wide, how deep and how long
How sweet and how strong is Your love
How lavish Your grace, how faithful Your ways
How great is Your Love, O Lord*

Verse 2

*Objects of mercy who should have known wrath
We're filled with unspeakable joy
Riches of wisdom, unsearchable wealth
And the wonder of knowing Your voice
You are our treasure and our great reward
Our hope and our glorious King*

Chorus x2

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The Invocation

The Confession of Sins and Good News of Forgiveness

P The Lord calls us to work in His vineyard. We confess the sins of indifference and jealousy that reside in our hearts.

C Forgive us, Lord.

P For selfishness and cowardice,

C forgive us, Lord

P For lack of vigilance and devotion to the service of the Gospel,

C forgive us, Lord.

P Almighty God,

C We confess to You that we have been more interested in our own desires and wishes, and less responsive to Your Word and Will. We look for greatness and avoid humble service. Forgive our pride and self-serving ways, and give us Your Own Heart of love and compassion.

P "... press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 3:14)

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a Called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the Grace of God to all of you.

P In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the Name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Musical Offering, Song of Praise: Better Is One Day

Verse 1

*How lovely is Your dwelling place, O Lord Almighty
For my soul longs and even faints for You
For here my heart is satisfied within Your Presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings*

Chorus

*Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere
Than thousands elsewhere*

Verse 2

*One thing I ask and I would seek to see Your beauty
To find You in the place Your glory dwells*

*One thing I ask and I would seek to see Your beauty
To find You in the place Your glory dwells*

Chorus x 2

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The Old Testament Reading – Isaiah 5:1-7

I will sing for the one I love a song about his vineyard: My loved one had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug it up and cleared it of stones and planted it with the choicest vines. He built a watchtower in it and cut out a winepress as well. Then he looked for a crop of good grapes, but it yielded only bad fruit. “Now you dwellers in Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more could have been done for my vineyard than I have done for it? When I looked for good grapes, why did it yield only bad? Now I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge, and it will be destroyed; I will break down its wall, and it will be trampled. I will make it a wasteland, neither pruned nor cultivated and briers and thorns will grow there. I will command the clouds not to rain on it.” The vineyard of the LORD Almighty is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are the garden of his delight. And he looked for justice, but saw bloodshed; for righteousness, but heard cries of distress.

The New Testament Epistle – Philippians 3:4b-14

If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for Whose Sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of His Resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in His Sufferings, becoming like Him in His Death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

The Holy Gospel – Matthew 21:33-42

"Listen to another parable: There was a landowner who planted a vineyard. He put a wall around it, dug a winepress in it and built a watchtower. Then he rented the vineyard to some farmers and went away on a journey. When the harvest time approached, he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his fruit. "The tenants seized his servants; they beat one, killed another, and stoned a third. Then he sent other servants to them, more than the first time, and the tenants treated them the same way. Last of all, he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. "But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come, let's kill him and take his inheritance.' So they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. "Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end," they replied, "and he will rent the vineyard to other tenants, who will give him his share of the crop at harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone the builders rejected has become the capstone; the Lord has done this, and it is marvelous in our eyes'?"

Musical Offering, Song of the Day: Mighty to Save

Verse 1

*Ev'ryone needs compassion, love that's never failing
Let mercy fall on me
Ev'ryone needs forgiveness, the kindness of a Savior
The hope of nations*

Chorus

*Savior, He can move the mountains
My God is mighty to save, He is mighty to save
Forever Author of salvation
He rose and conquered the grave
Jesus conquered the grave*

Verse 2

*So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures
Fill my life again
I give my life to follow ev'rything I believe in
Now I surrender*

Chorus x2

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The Message – Pastor Jonathan Blanke

The Friendship Epistle, 3: “Losing” the Past Together (Philippians 3:3b-14)
Proper 22/Series A

We continue our focus on Philippians. This week St. Paul reveals to us that in Christ Jesus we have lost our preoccupation with the past. God has won us...Jesus Christ has made us His own (3:12). We live and serve as people who have gained a future, forward-looking orientation in service to one another and the world as we keep our eyes on the prize of heaven!

- I. In Christ Jesus we have lost a _____-looking orientation to our _____
_____ (3:7)
- II. In Christ Jesus we have gained a _____-looking orientation to _____
_____ (3:14)
- III. We serve as people who share in the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus by _____ through _____ (3:9)

The Apostle’s Creed

**C 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.

The Prayers of the Church

After each additional petition:

P Lord, in Your Mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

The Lord's Prayer

C 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

The Benediction

Musical Offering, Closing Song: Come Thou Fount (Come Thou King)

Verse 1

*Come Thou Fount of ev'ry blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace
Streams of mercy never ceasing
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
Mount of Thy redeeming love*

Verse 2

*I was lost in utter darkness
'Til You came and rescued me
I was bound by all my sin when
Your love came and set me free
Now my soul can sing a new song
Now my heart has found a home
Now Your grace is always with me
And I'll never be alone*

Chorus

*Come Thou Fount, come Thou King
Come Thou precious Prince of Peace
Hear Your bride to You we sing
Come Thou Fount of our blessing*

Verse 3

*O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let Thy goodness like a fetter
Bind my wand'ring heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord I feel it
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it
Seal it for Thy courts above*

Chorus x 2

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- P** Go in peace and serve the Lord!
- C** **Thanks be to God!**

