



REDEEMER LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

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Daniel Bohlken, Interim Pastor

Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 22, 2022

OUR WORSHIP

No Condemnation

SERVICE THEME There is a familiar phrase that is shared with seminary students: "A Pastor's task is to afflict the comfortable and to comfort the afflicted." Jesus does both in our John 8:2-11 Gospel Reading, but, oh my, so much more.

+ Preparing Ourselves to Hear God's Word +

INVITATION TO WORSHIP Psalm 34:1-3, 6-7, 17-18, 22

Pastor: I will extol the LORD at all times;

People: His praise will always be on my lips.

Pastor: I will glory in the LORD;

People: let the afflicted hear and rejoice.

Pastor: Glorify the LORD with me;

People: let us exalt His name together.

Pastor: This poor man called, and the LORD heard him;

People: He saved him out of all his troubles.

Pastor: The angel of the LORD encamps around those who fear Him,

People: and He delivers them.

Pastor: The righteous cry out, and the LORD hears them;

People: He delivers them from all their troubles.

Pastor: The LORD is close to the brokenhearted

People: and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Pastor: The LORD will rescue His servants;

People: no one who takes refuge in Him will be condemned.

Pastor: In our Baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we have been claimed as God's beloved children who have received a "no condemnation" verdict now and forever.

**People: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,
now and forever. Amen!**

BAPTISM HYMN “Borning Cry”

**I was there to hear your borning cry; I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, To see your life unfold.
I was there when you were but a child, With a faith to suit you well;
In a blaze of light you wandered off To find where demons dwell.**

**When you heard the wonder of the Word, I was there to cheer you on;
You were raised to praise the living Lord, To whom you now belong.
If you find someone to share your time And you join your hearts as one,
I’ll be there to make your verses rhyme From dusk till rising sun.**

**In the middle ages of your life, Not too old, no longer young,
I’ll be there to guide you through the night, Complete what I’ve begun.
When the evening gently closes in And you shut your weary eyes,
I’ll be there as I always have been With just one more surprise.**

**I was there to hear your borning cry; I’ll be there when you are old.
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, To see your life unfold.**

CONFESSION

**Pastor: We feel condemned – by God, by the Church, by our friends, by our
family members, by everyone.**

ABSOLUTION The Lutheran Hymnal # 32, vv. 1-2

“Redeemed, Restored, and Forgiven”

**Pastor: Jesus says, “Neither do I condemn you.” Jesus took our condemnation
on Himself on the cross. And Paul states, “There is therefore no
condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”**

**But, there is also power, real heart-warming and transforming power, in
Jesus’ “no condemnation” verdict. For, Jesus also says, “Go and do not
continue to sin.” Our heart’s desire is to not to continue sinning. We are
attempting to live the new life in the power if Christ’s “no condemnation”
verdict. Though, with Paul, “The good that we want to do we do not
always do,” we daily struggle with sin and therefore, we sing:**

**Redeemed, restored, forgiven, Thro' Jesus' precious blood,
Heirs of His home in heaven, Oh, praise our pard'ning God!
Praise Him in tuneful measures Who gave His Son to die;
Praise Him whose sev'nfold treasures Enrich and sanctify.**

**Once on the dreary mountain We wandered far and wide,
Far from the cleansing fountain, Far from the pierced side;
But Jesus sought and found us And washed our guilt away;
With cords of love He bound us To be His own for aye.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Dear Father, we ask You to send Your Holy Spirit to remind us that You love us and accept us unconditionally and eternally through Your Son, Christ Jesus; yet, the accusations of those within our Christian community, of those amongst our friends and within our families who hurt us and make us feel "condemned." Help us today to hear loudly and clearly Jesus' "no condemnation" verdict. We ask in His precious name, the same who lives with You and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

People: Amen!

+ Hearing God's Word +

FIRST READING Isaiah 42:1-4a (Matthew 12:17-20)

¹ "Here is My servant, whom I uphold, My chosen one in whom I delight; I will put My Spirit on Him, and He will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out, or raise His voice in the streets. A bruised reed He will not break, and a smoldering wick He will not snuff out. In faithfulness He will bring forth justice; He will not falter or be discouraged till He establishes justice on earth."

EPISTLE READING Romans 7:15; 8:1-4

¹⁵ I do not understand myself. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. . . . ¹ Yet, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, ² because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. ³ For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so, He condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Pastor: These Readings are the Word of the LORD.

People: Thanks be to God!

GOSPEL READING John 8:2-11

Pastor: The Holy Gospel, according to St. John, the evangelist, the eighth chapter:

People: Glory to You, O LORD!

²At dawn He appeared again in the temple courts, where all the people gathered around Him, and He sat down to teach them. ³The teachers of the law and the Pharisees brought in a woman caught in adultery. They made her stand before the group ⁴and said to Jesus, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the act of adultery. ⁵In the Law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do You say?" ⁶They were using this question as a trap, in order to have a basis for accusing Him.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with His finger. ⁷When they kept on questioning Him, He straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸Again He stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and asked her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?"

¹¹"No one, sir," she said. "Then neither do I condemn you," Jesus declared. "Go now and do not continue to sin."

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the LORD.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE "How Does It Feel to Be Accepted"

SONG OF THE DAY "I Am Covered Over"

I am covered over with the robe of righteousness
that Jesus gives to me,
(gives to me)
I am covered over with the precious blood of Jesus
and He lives in me,
(lives in me)
Oh, what a joy it is to know, my heavenly Father loves me so,
He gives to me.
My Jesus, when He looks at me,
He sees not what I used to be,
but He sees Jesus.

MESSAGE "No Condemnation"

Introduction

Two things: [a] afflict the comfortable; [b] comfort the afflicted.

[1] Jesus afflicts the comfortable.

"Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

[2] Jesus comforts the afflicted.

"Neither do I condemn you."

Three Quick Applications

[1] If you are broken and bruised, go to Him.

[2] The verdict of "no condemnation" changes everything.

[3] No one changes bad habits/addictions with the Law.

+ Response to God's Word +

OFFERING "Because He Lives"

**God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, – heal, and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon;
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives.**

Refrain

***Because He lives I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future,
And life is worth living just because He lives.***

**How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the pride and joy He gives;
But greater still the calm assurance
This child can face uncertain days because He lives.**

Refrain

**And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives.**

Refrain

PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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!**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Pastor: Dear gracious and heavenly Father, grant unto Your Church Your Holy Spirit and the wisdom which comes down from above, that Your Word may not be bound, but have free course and be preached, taught, and read to the joy and edifying of Christ's holy people, that in steadfast faith we may serve You and in the confession of Your name abide unto the end; through Christ Jesus, Your Son and our Lord, the Same who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, ever one God, now and forever.

People: Amen!

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The LORD is blessing you and keeping you;
The LORD is making His face shine on you
and He is being gracious to you;
The LORD is smiling the biggest smile when He thinks of you
and He is giving you peace.

People: Amen!

SENDING SONG LSB 563 "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

**Jesus, Thy blood and righteousness
My beauty are, my glorious dress;
Midst flaming worlds, in these arrayed,
With joy shall I lift my head.**

**Bold shall I stand in that great day,
Cleansed and redeemed, no debt to pay;
Fully absolved through these I am
From sin and fear, from guilt and shame.**

Lord, I believe Thy precious blood,
Which at the mercy seat of God
Pleads for the captives' liberty,
Was also shed in love for me.

Lord, I believe, were sinners more
Than sands upon the ocean shore,
Thou hast for all a ransom paid,
For all a full atonement made.

When from the dust of death I rise
To claim my mansion in the skies,
This then shall be my only plea:
Jesus hath lived and died for me.

Jesus, be endless praise to Thee,
Whose boundless mercy hath for me,
For me, and all Thy hands have made,
An everlasting ransom paid.

Bethesda Auxiliary

Thanks so much to the members of the Body of Christ here at Redeemer for your gracious and generous donations to support the sharing of God's Word and Jesus' love with people living with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

The Bethesda Auxiliary – Oregon Unit is asking the LORD to show these individuals how to get the "Ministry of Presences" back into each of the AbleLight/Bethesda homes and apartments. Thankyou for your prayers and financial support for this to be accomplished.

NEXT SUNDAY's Bible Class

BIBLE TEXT: Ecclesiastes 9:10–12:8

This will conclude our study of Ecclesiastes. In this section, Solomon summarizes the qualities of a life of wisdom well-lived.

NEXT SUNDAY's Worship

THEME: The Truth that Sets You Free

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: Free vs. Not Free

SERMON: "True Freedom"