

"Living, sharing and teaching the Love of Christ as we reach out to all people" "Viviendo, compartiendo y ensenando el Amor de Cristo mientras alcanzamos a toda persona"

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 4, 2020

As We Gather

Today we continue our five-week series on **AUTHORITY** in Matthew's gospel. It is important to understand authority, because without it, we will never reach anyone with the gospel, nor are we likely to take God as seriously as we ought to. There are different kinds of authority, and each of them has its own problems. Today we look at government authority and its characteristic insanity, the insanity of pride.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

LITANY

Pastor: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

Pastor: This is the day which the Lord has made;

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Pastor: From the rising of the sun to its setting **People:** The name of the Lord is to be praised.

Pastor: Have no anxiety about anything,

People: But in everything by prayer let your requests be made known to God.

Pastor: They who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength;

People: They shall mount up with wings like eagles;

Pastor: They shall run and not be weary; **People:** They shall walk and not faint.

THE OPENING HYMN

This is the Day, Altar of Praise Choral

Open now thy gates of beauty; Zion, let me enter there, Where my soul in joyful duty Waits for Him who answers prayer. Oh, how blessed is this place, Filled with solace, light, and grace!

Gracious God, I come before Thee; Come Thou also unto me.
Where we find Thee and adore Thee, There a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, O enter Thou; Let it be Thy temple now!

Speak, O God, and I will hear Thee; Let Thy will be done indeed. May I undisturbed draw near Thee While Thou dost Thy people feed. Here of life the fountain flows; Here is balm for all our woes.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ♥ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, You who lead Joseph like a flock!

People: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Pastor: Turn again, O God of hosts!

People: Look down from heaven, and see; have regard for this vine, the stock that Your right hand planted.

Pastor: Restore us, O God of hosts;

People: let Your face shine, that we may be saved!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ♣ Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

You spread out the skies over empty space,
Said, "Let there be light."
To a dark and formless world,
Your light was born.
You spread out your arms over empty hearts,
Said, "Let there be light."
To a dark and hopeless world,
Your Son was born.

Bridge: You made the world and saw that it was good.
You sent Your only Son, for You are good.

Chorus: What a wonderful maker, What a wonderful savior, How majestic Your whispers, And how humble Your love. With a strength like no other, And the heart of a father, How majestic Your whispers What a wonderful God.

> No eye has fully seen how beautiful the cross, And we have only heard the faintest whispers Of how great You are.

> > Bridge: Chorus: Bridge: Chorus:

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Together: Lord God, owner of the vineyard that is Your people, whose Son paid with His life that we might live with You forever, grant that each day we give You the fruits of love and the praise You seek until Your Son returns for the final harvest; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON ISAIAH 5:1-7

^{5:1}Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I

have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briers and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

^{3:4}though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Gospel according to Saint Matthew:

People: Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

^{21:33}"Hear another parable. There was a master of a house who planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a winepress in it and built a tower and leased it to tenants, and went into another country. ³⁴When the season for fruit drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to get his fruit. ³⁵And the tenants took his servants and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other servants, more than the first. And they did the same to them. ³⁷Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and have his inheritance.' ³⁹And they took him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. ⁴⁰When therefore the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" ⁴¹They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and let out the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the fruits in their seasons."

MATTHEW 21:33-46

⁴²Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes'? ⁴³Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits. ⁴⁴And the one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and when it falls on anyone, it will crush him."

⁴⁵When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they perceived that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶And although they were seeking to arrest him, they feared the crowds, because they held him to be a prophet.

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord. **People: Praise to You, O Christ.**

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE 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.

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERING HYMN

This is My Father's World, Chris Rice

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world,
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise, The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world,
He shines in all that's fair,
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world.

O let me ne'er forget

That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the ruler yet.

This is my Father's world.

The battle is not done.

Jesus who died will be satisfied,

And earth and heaven be one.

This is my Father's world.

The battle is not done.

Jesus who died will be satisfied,

And earth and heaven be one, And earth and heaven be one.

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

SERMON HYMN

THE CHURCH'S ONE FOUNDATION [LSB#644]

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord; She is His new creation By water and the Word. From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth; Her charter of salvation: One Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses With ev'ry grace endued.

Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war, She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore, Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest, And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won. O blessed heav'nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

SERMON PASTOR ED GIESE

THE CLOSING PRAYER

THE BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor, ♣ and give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS, CONCORDIA

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne; Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,

And hail Him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.

Crown Him the virgin's Son, The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of Love, Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of Life, Who triumphed o'er the grave And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save. His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is King of all.

TO GOD ALONE BE ALL THE GLORY TO A DIOS SEA TODA LA GLORIA TO