

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 7, 2025

10:30 am Contemporary

AS WE GATHER

Jesus is blunt about the cost of discipleship. He does not sugarcoat the life He calls us to in the baptismal waters but neither does He diminish His promises, gifts, and blessings that accompany this life of faith. Today He calls us to count the cost, knowing that the way of the Christian is constantly tested and tried by our affection for the things of this life, our vulnerability to the enemies of the faith, and the weakness of our own sinful flesh. Part of that cost is not just in what you desire but also in what you are willing to surrender for the sake of Christ and His kingdom.

PRELUDE

WELCOME

OPENING SONG

Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)

Praise is rising
Eyes are turning to You
We turn to You
Hope is stirring
Hearts are yearning for You
We long for You

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away
(Washed away)

Hosanna hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of
Hearts returning to You
We turn to You
In Your Kingdom
Broken lives are made new
You make us new

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away
(Washed away)

Hosanna hosanna
You are the God who saves us
Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Instrumental

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away
(Washed away)

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away
(Washed away)

'Cause when we see You
We find strength to face the day
In Your presence
All our fears are washed away
(Washed away)

Hosanna hosanna
You are the God who saves us

Worthy of all our praises
Hosanna hosanna
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Hosanna hosanna

CCLI Song # 4662491

INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

SONG

He Is

If you're troubled
Heavy hearted
Come to Jesus and find your peace

If you're run down
Empty handed
Come to Jesus and find your strength
He is

Hope for the hopeless
Rest for the weary
Help for the hurting
He is He is

Mending the broken
Bearing the burdens
All that you're needing
He is

If you're wandering
In the darkness
Come to Jesus and find your way

If you want freedom
Need forgiveness
Just come to Jesus and find His grace
He is

Hope for the hopeless
Rest for the weary
Help for the hurting
He is He is
Mending the broken

Bearing the burdens
All that you're needing
He is
Comforter Counselor Prince of Peace
Author and Maker of everything
Defender Deliverer King of kings
He is He is

Helper and Healer forevermore
Savior and Shelter through every storm
My Refuge Redeemer and Lord of Lords
He is He is

Child of Heaven and Son of Man
Provider Protector the great I AM
Alpha Omega Beginning and End
He Is He Is
He is

Hope for the hopeless
Rest for the weary
Help for the hurting
He is He is
Mending the broken
Bearing the burdens
All that you're needing
He is
All that you're needing
He is

CCLI Song # 7172903

SALUTATION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Let us pray.

O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

READINGS

FIRST READING

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

"See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philemon 1–21

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

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

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus— I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I

became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 14:25–35

Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG

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!

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 the 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!

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 the living,
Just because He lives!

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 vict'ry,
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He
lives!

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 the living,
Just because He lives!

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 the living,
Just because He lives!

CCLI Song #16880

SERMON

"It's Gonna Cost You"
Luke 14:25-35

Pastor Eric Clausen

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

HOLY COMMUNION

WORDS OF OUR LORD

Leader: 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."

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

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

People: And also with you.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Power To Redeem

You take what is and You make it
beautiful
When love floods in we're restored
forevermore

With breath that brings the dead to life
With words that pierce the dark with
light
Only by the blood are we set free
With mercy strong to carry shame
And nail it to a tree
You alone hold the power to redeem

No guilt competes with innocence
crucified
No grave can hold what Your grace has
justified

With breath that brings the dead to life
With words that pierce the dark with
light
Only by the blood are we set free
With mercy strong to carry shame
And nail it to a tree

You alone hold the power to redeem

Rejoice O child of God
Lift your eyes to see
With ev'ry morning light
Again we are redeemed

Rejoice O child of God
Lift your eyes to see
With ev'ry morning light
Again we are redeemed

Oh, with breath that brings the dead to
life
With words that pierce the dark with
light
Only by the blood are we set free
With mercy strong to carry shame
And nail it to a tree
You alone hold the power to redeem

Oh You alone hold the power to redeem
Oh You alone hold the power to redeem

CCLI Song #7023313

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Leader: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, we give thanks that we have again received the Body and blood of Christ, the bread from heaven. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage, that we speak the truth in love and build up the Body of Christ until that day we see You face-to-face; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you.

The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The LORD look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: Amen

CLOSING SONG

No One Like The Lord (We Crown You)

There is One on the throne
Jesus holy
He is worthy of praise
Honor and glory

There is One on the throne
Jesus holy
He is worthy of praise
Honor and glory

Worthy is the Lamb
Who was slain and seated on the throne
There's no one like the Lord
Elders creatures bow
Giving praise to Him and Him alone
There's no one like the Lord

There is One on the throne
Jesus holy
He is worthy of praise
Honor and glory

Worthy is the Lamb
Who was slain and seated on the throne
There's no one like the Lord
Elders creatures bow
Giving praise to Him and Him alone
There's no one like the Lord

Worthy is the Lamb
Who was slain and seated on the throne
There's no one like the Lord
Elders creatures bow
Giving praise to Him and Him alone
There's no one like the Lord

We crown You King of glory
We crown You King of glory
We crown You King of glory
We crown You Lord of all
We crown You You are worthy
We crown You You are worthy
We crown You You are worthy
We crown You Lord of all

We crown You King of glory
We crown You King of glory
We crown You King of glory
We crown You Lord of all
We crown You You are worthy
We crown You You are worthy
We crown You You are worthy
We crown You Lord of all

Worthy is the Lamb
Who was slain and seated on the throne
There's no one like the Lord
Elders creatures bow
Giving praise to Him and Him alone
There's no one like the Lord

Worthy is the Lamb
Who was slain and seated on the throne
There's no one like the Lord
Elders creatures bow
Giving praise to Him and Him alone
There's no one like the Lord

There's no one like the Lord

There's no one like the Lord

CCLI Song #7239649

DISMISSAL

Leader: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 3.
Copyright © 2025 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Cost of DISCIPLESHIP

Luke 14:25-35