

UPSIDE DOWN: “The Persecuted”

Matthew 5:10-12

I. Intro: Quick fixes

II. The upside down life of the _____

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me.” (Matthew 5:11 NIV)

In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted. (2 Timothy 3:12 NIV)

A. God chooses _____ over _____

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.” (Matthew 5:14 NIV)

B. God chooses _____ over _____

“Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. Rather, be afraid of the One who can destroy both soul and body in hell.” (Matthew 10:28 NIV)

C. Choose _____ over _____

“But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” (Matthew 9:13 NIV)

The background of the right page is a black and white photograph of a cloudy sky with the silhouettes of evergreen trees at the top and bottom edges. The text is centered in the middle of the page.

Upside DOWN

Series on the Beatitudes

The Persecuted
Part 8 | Matthew 5:10-12

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 22, 2023

.:gather:.

Welcome & Invocation (Setting 3, pg.184)

"Lord Jesus, Think on Me" (LSB610)

Prayer of the Day, Confession & Absolution

.:grow:.

Readings

Joel 2:12-19; 1 Peter 2:1-10; Matthew 5:10-12

Creed

"Today Your Mercy Calls Us" (LSB915:1-3)

Message

UPSIDE DOWN: "The Persecuted"

Offering

Online giving is available at RedeemerRolla.org/give. Thanks for supporting the ongoing mission and ministry in this way! God bless you!

Institution of Elements, Agnus Dei, Distribution

As you approach for Communion, if you desire only ashes, proceed through the same line. If you do not want ashes, or prefer them placed on your hand, let the elder know.

"Savior, When in Dust to Thee" (LSB419)

"Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (LSB528)

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be" (LSB611)

.:go:.

Nunc Dimittis, Thanksgiving, Salutation, Benediction

"The Church's One Foundation" (LSB644:1-4)

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Redeemer

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Sunday Worship

8:30am - Traditional Worship

9:45am - Growth Hour

11am - Contemporary Worship

Welcome to Redeemer!

Thanks for worshiping with us! We want you to feel at home and encourage you to introduce yourself to one of our greeters or pastor. If you'd like more info about Redeemer, please fill out the Connect Card in the chair-back in front of you. **We want to meet and welcome you personally.** If you have questions concerning hearing assistance or directions to our nursery or classrooms, an usher will be happy to assist. Children's bulletins and "busy hands" bags are available at the Welcome Center just outside the sanctuary.

So we're going to come right out and say something that likely won't shock you: **We're not perfect.** We try to be real, transparent, and honest. But we even fail at that sometimes. You may feel ignored or unappreciated in some way this morning, but that certainly is not our intention. Please allow us to get to know you better – we all came to worship a Loving God.

But here's the thing: **We don't come to church to meet perfect people.** We come to meet **a perfect God.** He's inviting us to worship today. He is good and His love endures forever. And His is a love that was consummated on a cross and vindicated in an empty tomb. **Jesus won the battle** against sin, death and the devil. He freed us. **Today we celebrate that victory** and freedom together as **imperfect people, longing for more of Him.**

Pastor Nathan

If This is Your First Time Joining Us!

We're thrilled you are here! We'd love to get to know you better! We pray this time of worship encourages and challenges you in your faith.



If you are looking for a church home, **we would love to partner with you** to make an eternal difference in our community for Jesus. Consider being part of the next "Doorway Class" which will give you a better flavor for who we are as a church. You will find that **Redeemer is a great place to GATHER, GROW, and GO in your relationship with Jesus**

Come "GROW" with us!

Welcome to the Lord's Table

If you're a guest, we are glad you are here! Prior to taking Communion, we encourage you to speak with pastor or an elder. We believe the sacrament of Communion is a gift of Christ to His Church. Scripture encourages, all who receive this gift must first examine themselves concerning matters of biblical faith and godly living: "Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup." (1 Cor 11:28). Therefore, prior to celebrating Communion, we ask that you prayerfully consider the following:

- * Do I believe I'm a sinner without hope of eternal life except for God's mercy offered through the death & resurrection of Jesus Christ?
- * Do I believe Jesus is present with His Body & His Blood in, with, and under the bread and wine?
- * Do I believe Jesus is God's Son & my Savior?
- * Do I desire, by the power of the Holy Spirit and the instruction of God's Word, to live a life pleasing to Him?
- * Do I repent of my sins in what I say, think, & do?

We believe your "Yes!" to these questions affirms a common faith with confirmed Lutheran Christians and is your invitation to our Lord's Table. Non-Communing children and adults are encouraged to come up for a personal blessing. For those who prefer, white grape juice is available at the center of each Communion tray.