



**“God’s Greater Story:  
Christ, Our Deliverer”**  
*Sunday, September 27 2020 9:00AM*  
**Worship Service**

**AS WE GATHER**

Today we continue our series, “God’s Greater Story”, based upon a portion of Paul’s letter to the Church at Rome. Sin is something everyone deals with. There are the sins we do unto others with our words and actions. There are the sins that others do upon us. Either way we struggle with sin. Thankfully, Jesus does not leave us by ourselves. He says, “Come to Me with all your problems. Come to Me with all your struggles. And in Me you will find rest.

**WELCOME**

**OPENING HYMN**

**“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”**

**LSB 375 sts. 1-3**

- 1 Come, your hearts and voices raising,  
Christ the Lord with gladness praising;  
Loudly sing His love amazing,  
Worthy folk of Christendom.
  
- 2 Christ, from heav’n to us descending  
And in love our race befriending;  
In our need His help extending,  
Saved us from the wily foe.
  
- 3 Jacob’s star in all its splendor  
Beams with comfort sweet and tender,  
Forcing Satan to surrender,  
Breaking all the pow’rs of hell.

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*Stand*

**INVOCATION**

- P** In the name of the Father, and the Son ✠ and the Holy Spirit.  
**C** **Amen.**

**OPENING RESPONSE**

- P** The troubles of my heart are enlarged; bring me out of my distresses.  
**C** **Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins.**  
**P** As far as the east is from the west,  
**C** **So far does he remove our transgressions from us.**  
**P** If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins  
**C** **And to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**  
**P** For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit.  
**C** **Therefore we give glory to God who raised him up and gave us the promise of salvation. Amen.**

**CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

- P** Jesus said, “Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.”

- C** Forgiven Lord, we confess that we find ourselves cherishing your forgiveness, yet we seek to avoid forgiving those who sin against us. Forgive our need to carry grudges, to count the injuries done to us while failing to see and confess the failings in ourselves. Forgive blindness to the hurts and needs of others while we tend to our own broken promises and broken intentions. Fill us with your heart of compassionate forgiveness and make us those who heal and encourage our loved ones. Fill us with the Spirit so that we might overflow with the serving that proclaims your very presence with us.
- P** I have the honor and privilege, by the grace of God, of announcing to you the entire forgiveness of your sins. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven and free—free to share the steadfast love of God with all.

## **HYMN of PRAISE**

**“Come, Your Hearts and Voices Raising”**

**LSB 375 sts. 4-5**

4 From the bondage that oppressed us,  
From sin’s fetters that possessed us,  
From the grief that sore distressed us,  
We, the captives, now are free.

5 Oh, the joy beyond expressing  
When by faith we grasp this blessing,  
And to You we come confessing  
That Your love has set us free.

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## **READING**

**Matthew 11:25–30**

**P** A reading from Matthew, chapter 11.

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus declared, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. <sup>28</sup>Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **CREED (THE SECOND ARTICLE)**

**C** 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.

**P** What does this mean?

**C** I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord,

who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death,

that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,

**just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity. This is most certainly true.**

*Sit*

**HYMN of the DAY**

**“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”**

**LSB 427**

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory,  
Tow’ring o’er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
Gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o’ertake me,  
Hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
Never shall the cross forsake me;  
Lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming  
Light and love upon my way,  
From the cross the radiance streaming  
Adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure  
By the cross are sanctified;  
Peace is there that knows no measure,  
Joys that through all time abide.

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**SERMON**

**“God’s Greater Story: Christ, Our Deliverer”**

**Romans 7: 14-25a**

*Stand*

**PRAYERS of the CHURCH**

- [P]** Let us bring our prayers and petitions to God, who hears and answers the pleas of our hearts. Lord, we pray your peace for the nations and peoples of the world and our own nation. Send your Spirit into leaders and rulers. Give them wisdom and a vision of your will for their peoples. We ask your help and comfort for those who must live in places of violence and persecution, especially those who suffer for your name. Strengthen the oppressed; hold the persecuted in your protective hand; send justice to the victims of injustice; and encompass all who cry to you for help with your saving presence. Make us agents of healing in this hurting world. In your mercy,
- [C] Hear us, Lord.**
- [P]** We pray for this congregation and your church in the world. Give faithful leaders so that your church can be a place of healing and reconciliation for all who are broken in spirit. Inspire your followers to take up their crosses of love and service. In your mercy,
- [C] Hear us, Lord.**
- [P]** Ever-present Savior, fill us with the gift of your forgiveness, so that we can carry that forgiveness to all in our world. Give us a spirit of repentance so that we can more fully depend on your gracious gift of forgiveness. Give us the strength to choose the way of open acceptance and reconciliation for all we meet, all who are broken in spirit and burdened by the sins of the past. Lead us to take your healing power to all those around us who cry out for help. Make us able to choose the path of love. In your mercy,
- [C] Hear us, Lord.**
- [P]** We pray for the sick, the suffering, the grieving, the lonely, especially those we name in our hearts. We commit them to your loving care. Heal, help and comfort them according to your will. In your mercy,
- [C] Hear us, Lord.**
- [P]** These and all other petitions and requests we bring before you in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## 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.

*Sit*

## CLOSING HYMN

**“Praise Be to Christ”**

**LSB 538**

- 1 Praise be to Christ in whom we see  
The image of the Father shown,  
The firstborn Son revealed and known,  
The truth and grace of deity;  
Through whom creation came to birth,  
Whose fingers set the stars in place,  
The unseen pow'rs, and this small earth,  
The furthest bounds of time and space.
- 2 Praise be to Him whose sov'reign sway  
And will upholds creation's plan;  
Who is, before all worlds began  
And when our world has passed away:  
Lord of the Church, its life and head,  
Redemption's price and source and theme,  
Alive, the firstborn from the dead,  
To reign as all-in-all supreme.
- 3 Praise be to Him who, Lord Most High,  
The fullness of the Godhead shares;  
And yet our human nature bears,  
Who came as man to bleed and die.  
And from His cross there flows our peace  
Who chose for us the path He trod,  
That so might sins and sorrows cease  
And all be reconciled to God.

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## BENEDICTION

**P** Now may the forgiving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal the encompassing love of God and the presence and power of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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