



**“God’s Greater Story:
God, in Love, Ruling over Ruins”**
Sunday, October 11, 2020 9:00AM
Worship Service

AS WE GATHER

So often, when we come to church, we come with a limited vision of God. We look at God through the experience of our lives and that limits what we see. As we continue our series today, “God’s Greater Story”, based upon a portion of Paul’s letter to the Church at Rome, Paul wants to change our perspective. Paul wants us to experience a reversal. We don’t fit God into our lives. No, God brings us into his life, his love, his rule of the world.

Stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966 st. 1

1 Before You, Lord, we bow,
 Our God who reigns above
 And rules the world below,
 Boundless in pow’r and love.
 Our thanks we bring
 In joy and praise,
 Our hearts we raise
 To You, our King!

Text: Public domain

OPENING SENTENCES *(Psalm 96:1–9)*

P Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!

C Sing to the Lord, bless His name; tell of His salvation from day to day.

P Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!

C For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.
 Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966 sts. 2 & 3

2 The nation You have blest
 May well Your love declare,
 From foes and fears at rest,
 Protected by Your care.
 For this bright day,
 For this fair land—
 Gifts of Your hand—
 Our thanks we pay.

3 May ev’ry mountain height,
 Each vale and forest green,
 Shine in Your Word’s pure light,
 And its rich fruits be seen!
 May ev’ry tongue

Be tuned to praise
And join to raise
A grateful song.

Text: Public domain

- P** For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the Lord made the heavens.
C **Splendor and majesty are before Him; strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.**

- P** Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!
C **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His name; bring an offering, and come into His courts! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966 st. 4

4 Earth, hear your Maker’s voice;
Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore,
And bow before
The Crucified.

Text: Public domain

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(Psalm 51:1–3; 96:9–13; Isaiah 45:5, adapted)*

- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love;
C **according to Your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**
- P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!
C **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**
- P** As we come and bow before the Lord to confess our sins, we admit that we have bowed down to other gods of this world and gods of our own choosing.
C **We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in You.**
- P** We have failed to rely on You in all times. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, and against others in what we have done and left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart
C **and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We confess we have trusted in ourselves and others rather than in You.**
- P** Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
C **let the field exult, and everything in it!**
- P** Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy
C **before the Lord, for He comes,**
- P** for He comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in His faithfulness.
C **Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.**

HYMN

“Before You, Lord, We Bow”

LSB 966 st. 5

5 And when in pow’r He comes,
Oh, may our native land

From all its rending tombs
Send forth a glorious band,
A countless throng,
With joy to sing
To heav'n's high King
Salvation's song!

Text: Public domain

P Brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus, God is a merciful and loving Father, of whom “there is no other, besides Him there is no God.” He has chosen you in the Gospel, which has come not only in word but with full conviction in power and in the Holy Spirit. Jesus died on the cross to redeem You. Through Him, in His stead, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

LSB 940 st. 1

1 Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.

Text: Public domain

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

JOHN 12:44–50

L A reading from John, chapter 12.

⁴⁴And Jesus cried out and said, “Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. ⁴⁵And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. ⁴⁶I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. ⁴⁷If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. ⁴⁸The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. ⁴⁹For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. ⁵⁰And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Sit

HYMN

“Lord of Glory, You have Bought Us”

LSB 851

- 1 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice;
And with that have freely given
Blessings countless as the sand
To the_unthankful and the evil
With Your own unsparing hand.

- 2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You
Gladly, freely of Your own.
With the sunshine of Your goodness
Melt our thankless hearts of stone
Till our cold and selfish natures,
Warmed by You, at length believe
That more happy and more blessèd
'Tis to give than to receive.

- 3 Wondrous honor You have given
To our humblest charity
In Your own mysterious sentence,
“You have done it all to Me.”
Can it be, O gracious Master,
That You deign for alms to sue,
Saying by Your poor and needy,
“Give as I have giv’n to you”?

- 4 Lord of glory, You have bought us
With Your lifeblood as the price,
Never grudging for the lost ones
That tremendous sacrifice.
Give us faith to trust You boldly,
Hope, to stay our souls on You;
But, oh, best of all Your graces,
With Your love our love renew.

Text: Public domain

SERMON

“God’s Greater Story: God, in Love, Ruling over Ruins”

Romans 8:28-39

HYMN

“We All Believe in One True God”

LSB 953

- 1 We all believe in one true God,
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Ever-present help in need,
Praised by all the heav’nly host;
All He made His love enfolds,
All creation He upholds.

- 2 We all believe in Jesus Christ,
Son of God and Mary’s son,
Who descended from His throne

And for us salvation won;
By whose cross and death are we
Rescued from all misery.

- 3 We all confess the Holy Ghost,
Who from both in truth proceeds,
Who sustains and comforts us
In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blessèd, holy Trinity,
Praise forever be to Thee!

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Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We offer to You, Lord, the sacrifice of our prayer and praise. You have blessed us with the gift of life in Your Son, Jesus Christ. You provide for all our needs, even when we are unaware. Accept our humble thanksgiving, and empower us to demonstrate our thanks in words, actions, and dedicated service to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** We acknowledge that You are the Lord, and there is no other. Strengthen us to resist temptations to serve other gods, whether things of this world, others, or ourselves. Open our eyes to see Your presence in all of our lives. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Our Savior Jesus Christ, has reminded us to render to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to You what is Yours. As You have established all authority over us, we pray for our leaders in this world, nation, state, and community. Give them wisdom and courage to act with justice and mercy for all lives, including the unborn and aged, the vulnerable and needful. Bless also those who serve our Church as elected and called officials, and the leaders within our own congregation, that all actions bring glory to You. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** We lift up all those in need, the hungry and homeless, the mourning and grieving, and all who seek healing, [*especially . . .*]. Give peace, hope, and healing according to Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Bless all who commune at this altar today, that through the body and blood of Your Son, Jesus, they be strengthened in Your forgiveness, enabled to withstand temptations of the devil, and empowered to lovingly serve neighbors in Your name. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

- C** **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.**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, almighty God, for You sent Your Son into this world to rescue us and make for Yourself an everlasting kingdom. We give to You what is Yours, for You give to us what we don't deserve through Your perfect love, and give us what we need through the all-availing sacrifice of Christ's body and blood on the cross. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to do in His own testament. Receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P 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."

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTUON HYMN

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

LSB 802

1 Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious,

the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

3 To all life Thou givest—
to both great and small—
In all life Thou livest,
the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish—
but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee.

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DISTRIBUTUON HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”

LSB 801

1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed; Refrain

ref Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

2 When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; Refrain

3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; Refrain

4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: "My God, how great Thou art!" Refrain

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DISTRIBUTUON HYMN

"Praise and Thanksgiving"

LSB 789

- 1 Praise and thanksgiving,
Father, we offer
For all things living,
Created good:
Harvest of sown fields,
Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields,
Blossom and wood.

- 2 Bless, Lord, the labor
We bring to serve You
That with our neighbor
We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling,
We would work with You,
Harvesting, milling
For daily bread.

- 3 Father, providing
Food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding
Teach us to share
One with another,
So that, rejoicing
With us, all others
May know Your care.

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POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P As you make your way home, as you enter into another week, Jesus continues to pray for you. He takes your suffering and burdens, your sins and sorrows, and presents them in prayer to His Father. Nothing you encounter, nothing you bring, can ever separate you from God. Neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. We are more than conquerors in Jesus who rules over these ruins in love.

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.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”

LSB 917 sts. 1 & 2

- 1 Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.

- 2 Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.
Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

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