

**MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

***The Lord's Day***

**October 3, 2021**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch**

**Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber**

***Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise***

*Arranged by Jan Sanborn*

**Call to Worship: Psalm 34:1-3**

**The Invocation**

**\*Hymn of Praise 296 (vv. 1,3,5-6)**

***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!***

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!

Let angels prostrate fall;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown him Lord of all;

Bring forth the royal diadem,

And crown him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race,

Ye ransomed of the fall,

Hail him who saves you by his grace,

And crown him Lord of all;

Hail him who saves you by his grace,

And crown him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, every tribe,

On this terrestrial ball,

To him all majesty ascribe,

And crown him Lord of all;

To Him all majesty ascribe,

And crown him Lord of all.

O that with yonder sacred throng

We at his feet may fall;

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown him Lord of all,

We'll join the everlasting song,

And crown him Lord of all.

### **The Confession of Faith: 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, dead and buried; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **\*Song of Praise**

#### ***10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)***

##### *Chorus*

Bless the Lord, oh, my soul, oh, my soul.

Worship his holy name.

Sing like never before, oh my soul.

I worship your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.

It's time to sing your song again.

Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes. (*Chorus*)

You're rich in love and you're slow to anger.

Your name is great and your heart is kind.

For all your goodness I will keep on singing,  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (*Chorus*)

And on that day when my strength is failing,

The end draws near, and my time has come,

Still my soul will sing your praise unending,

Ten thousand years and then forevermore. (*Chorus 2x*)

Yes, I will worship your holy name.

Lord, I worship your holy name.

Sing like never before, Oh, my soul.

I worship Your holy name.

Yes, I will worship Your holy name.

Lord, I worship Your holy name.

### **The Lord's Prayer / Pastoral 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## Offertory

Chancel Choir  
Susan Porter, Alto  
Barb Rountree, Soprano  
Jeanne Hesse, Soprano

### *God's Grace*

*By Earlene Rentz*

## \*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*(During this song, children ages 4-6 may go to Children's Worship)*

## ***Sermon Series: Romans: Gospel Partnership***

***Sermon Text: Romans 4:1-8 (ESV)***

***Sermon Title: Our Family Story***

*What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? <sup>2</sup> For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. <sup>3</sup> For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." <sup>4</sup> Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. <sup>5</sup> And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, <sup>6</sup> just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:*

<sup>7</sup> *"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;*

<sup>8</sup> *blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."*

We have been studying through Paul's magnum opus, the letter to the Romans, the great doctrine of justification by faith. The truth that God, by his grace, declares us to be both forgiven and righteous in his sight through the work of his Son, Jesus Christ.

One of the other great blessings of this doctrine, a sometimes-overlooked blessing, is that by faith in Christ we are also brought into the family of God. That we are one with God and with one another. We are a part of the covenant family of God. In Romans 4:1-8 Paul describes the means by which, in fulfillment of God's covenant promises, both Jews and Gentiles receive this gift of righteousness and become part of his family.

So, we are looking at our family story. What kind of family, what are the values, the ethos, the DNA of this covenant family? Paul highlights in this passage two of our family leaders, exploring what our family looks like, and what it means for us to be a part of God's covenant family.

And so, in this text we will look at two things:

1. Through Abraham We Learn that God's Family is a Family of Faith
2. Through David We Learn that God's Family is a Family of Grace

Faith and grace. Two prominent themes in Paul's letter to the Romans. You would think we would understand them by now and wouldn't have to keep relearning these lessons. We always need to return to faith and grace and to see how this unmerited, undeserved, and unearned favor cultivates in God's family the characteristics of thanksgiving and humility. May God cultivate this fruit in us as we encounter him through his Word.

### **Reflection**

*"So here is the most truly radical thing of all. Abraham, far from being a model of righteousness, is first and foremost the original justified sinner, the original "ungodly" person who is reshaped by God into godliness, not because of his own deeds but because of the God who does the unimaginable thing – the God who justifies, rectifies, redeems, and remakes the least acceptable, most ungodly person." (Fleming Rutledge, Not Ashamed of the Gospel)*

### **\*Hymn 32**

#### *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not; thy compassions, they fail not;  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

#### *Chorus*

Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see:  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided -  
Great is thy faithfulness,  
Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. (*Chorus*)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (*Chorus*)

### **\*The Benediction**

### **Postlude**

*\*All songs covered by CCLI license #1257045*