

# **MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

*The Lord's Day*

**September 5, 2021**

**10:30 a.m.**

**Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch**

**Prelude: Mrs. Amy Reber**

*O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

*By Jan Sanborn*

**Call to Worship: Psalm 99:1-3**

**The Invocation**

**\*Hymn of Praise 2 (vs. 1-2, 4-5)**

## *O Worship the King*

O worship the King all glorious above,  
O gratefully sing his pow'r and his love;  
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,  
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of his might, O sing of his grace,  
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.  
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,  
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

Your bountiful care what tongue can recite?  
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;  
It streams from the hills; it descends to the plain;  
And sweetly distils in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,  
In you do we trust, nor find you to fail;  
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,  
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

## **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**

***How Great Is Our God***  
The splendor of the King,  
Clothed in majesty;  
Let all the earth rejoice,  
All the earth rejoice.  
He wraps himself in light,  
And darkness tries to hide;  
And trembles at his voice,  
And trembles at his voice.

*(Chorus)*

How great is our God!  
Sing with me,  
“How great is our God!”  
And all will see how great,  
How great is our God!

And age to age he stands,  
And time is in his hands;  
Beginning and the End,  
Beginning and the End.  
The Godhead three in one,  
Father, Spirit, Son,  
The Lion and the Lamb,  
The Lion and the Lamb. *(Chorus)*

*(Bridge)*

Name above all names,  
Worthy of all praise;  
My heart will sing,  
“How great is our God!”

**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**

***Lord, Have Mercy***

*By Michael W. Smith*

**\*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.

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

***Sermon Text: Romans 3:9-20 (ESV)***

***Sermon Title: The Human Condition***

***Pastor Jeff Birch***

*<sup>9</sup> What then? Are we Jews any better off? No, not at all. For we have already charged that all, both Jews and Greeks, are under sin, <sup>10</sup> as it is written:*

- “None is righteous, no, not one;  
<sup>11</sup> no one understands;  
no one seeks for God.  
<sup>12</sup> All have turned aside; together they have become worthless;  
no one does good,  
not even one.”  
<sup>13</sup> “Their throat is an open grave;  
they use their tongues to deceive.”  
“The venom of asps is under their lips.”  
<sup>14</sup> “Their mouth is full of curses and bitterness.”  
<sup>15</sup> “Their feet are swift to shed blood;  
<sup>16</sup> in their paths are ruin and misery,  
<sup>17</sup> and the way of peace they have not known.”  
<sup>18</sup> “There is no fear of God before their eyes.”*

*<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.*

In this section of the book of Romans (Rom. 3:9-20) Paul is instructing the church at Rome of their universal need of the gospel. This is called the human condition. And we are all part of it. As the writer G.K. Chesterton responded to an article that was written, “Dear sir: Regarding your article ‘What’s Wrong with the World?’ I am. Yours truly, G.K. Chesterton.”

The apostle Paul would agree. And he would include himself and all of us in that reality. The gospel begins with the reality of our condition and our utter need for grace. As Jack Miller would frequently say, “Cheer up, you are so much worse than you think.” And then he would follow that up with “Cheer up, you are more loved than you could ever ask or imagine.”

God’s love and grace will only galvanize and transform us to the degree that we understand and appropriate our condition. We will look at this text this morning from three perspectives:

- I. The Charge
- II. The Evidence
- III. The Verdict

## Reflection

*“My deepest awareness of myself is that I am deeply loved by Jesus Christ and I have done nothing to earn it or deserve it.” (Brennan Manning, The Ragamuffin Gospel)*

## \*Hymn 498

### *Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners!*

Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!  
Jesus! lover of my soul;  
Friends may fail me, foes assail me,  
He, my Savior, makes me whole.

*(Chorus)*

Hallelujah! what a Savior!  
Hallelujah, what a Friend!  
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,  
He is with me to the end.

Jesus! what a strength in weakness!  
Let me hide myself in him;  
Tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,  
He, my strength, my vict'ry wins. *(Chorus)*

Jesus! what a help in sorrow!  
While the billows o'er me roll,  
Even when my heart is breaking,  
He, my comfort, helps my soul. *(Chorus)*

Jesus! what a guide and keeper!  
While the tempest still is high,  
Storms about me, night o'er-takes me,  
He, my pilot, hears my cry. *(Chorus)*

Jesus! I do now receive him,  
More than all in him I find;  
He hath granted me forgiveness,  
I am his, and he is mine. *(Chorus)*

## \*The Benediction

## Postlude

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