

Sunday, May 2, 2021

9:30 am Service



**Our Vision:**  
**Disciples Making Disciples**

**Our Mission:**  
**Making Disciples Who Make Disciples**

Theme of the Year  
Come Follow Me *and* Come Learn From Me

### WORSHIP VERSE

*Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness. Psalm 29:2*

### WORSHIP QUOTE

The simplest way to define worship is that it is to attribute worth to God's revealed character. The command to "ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name" in psalm 29:2 does not mean we add anything to God. It simply means that we acknowledge him for who he is and in this way glorify or honor him. This is precisely what is being done in heaven. (Revelation 4:11, 5:12) ~William Thrasher

### PRESERVICE THOUGHTS

*"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it." ~ Matthew 7:13-14*

While pondering this teaching over a prayer-walk, I happened across a lost key and made a connection to Luke's version of this narrow gate text: *Make every attempt to enter through the narrow door* (Luke 13:24). I found myself asking "what is the key to entering through that door (or "gate" as Jesus says in Sermon on the Mount)? That key is what we are digging into this week.

In John 10, Jesus calls Himself the gate. So, in one sense the key is to know Jesus. But it also seems that *calling* Jesus "Lord" is not the same as *knowing* Jesus as Lord. Let's be clear that in following Jesus as Lord, we want to walk through the door – not merely approach Him or learn about Him or read about Him.

## PRESERVICE PRAYER

Father God, today in worship we get a chance to feast with You at the table of Your Word and gifts, a foretaste of life with You in eternity. We get a chance to hear from You, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God and Father of our Lord, Jesus Christ, who has made us one with You. Bless our time of worship and may we continue to see people flow through the door of Jesus into life with You. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

## PRESERVICE HYMNS

### ***“This Is the Day the Lord Has Made”***

**903**

This is the day the Lord has made;  
He calls the hours His own.  
Let the heav'n rejoice, let earth be glad  
And praise surround the throne.

Blessed is He who comes to us  
With messages of grace  
He, in the Lord's name, comes to us  
To save our fallen race.

Hosanna in the highest strains  
The Church on earth can raise.  
The highest heav'ns in which He reigns,  
Shall give Him nobler praise.

### ***“To God Be the Glory”***

To God be the glory, great things He hath done;  
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,  
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Refrain*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord,*

*Let the earth hear His voice!*

*Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father, thro' Jesus the Son,*

*And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,  
To ev'ry believer the promise of God;  
The vilest offender who truly believes,  
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives. *Refrain*

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,  
And great our rejoicing thro' Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. *Refrain*

## PSALM OF THE WEEK

**Psalm 119:9-16**

How can a young person stay on the path of purity?  
By living according to your word.  
I seek you with all my heart;  
do not let me stray from your commands.  
I have hidden your word in my heart  
that I might not sin against you.  
Praise be to you, LORD;  
teach me your decrees.  
With my lips I recount  
all the laws that come from your mouth.  
I rejoice in following your statutes  
as one rejoices in great riches.  
I meditate on your precepts  
and consider your ways.  
I delight in your decrees;  
I will not neglect your word.

### ***“Hark the Voice of Jesus Calling”***

**827**

Hark, the voice of Jesus calling,  
“Who will go and work today?  
Fields are white and harvests waiting,  
Who will bear the sheaves away?”  
Loud and long the Master calleth;  
Rich reward He offers thee.  
Who will answer, gladly saying,  
“Here am I, send me, send me.”?

Some take up His task in morning,  
To their Lord responding soon;  
Some are called in heat of midday,  
Others late in afternoon;  
Even as the sun is setting,  
Some are sent into the fields,  
There to gather in the bounty  
That God's Word so richly yields.

Hearken to the Lord whose coming  
Marks the time when grace shall end,  
When with His angelic reapers  
He in glory shall descend.  
Soon the night, the final harvest;  
Soon the time for work shall cease.  
Then the souls His grace has garnered  
Shall enjoy His Sabbath peace.

**“O Lord, We Praise Thee”**

617

O Lord, we praise Thee,  
Bless Thee, and adore Thee,  
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.  
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish  
Our weak souls that they may flourish:  
O Lord, have mercy!  
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,  
That our sins and sorrows did carry,  
And Thy blood for us plead  
In all trial, fear, and need:  
O Lord, have mercy!

Thy holy body into death was given,  
Life to win for us in heaven.  
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;  
May this feast thereof remind us!  
O Lord, have mercy!  
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee  
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.  
All our debt Thou hast paid;  
Peace with God once more is made:  
O Lord, have mercy!

May God bestow on us His grace and favor  
That we follow Christ our Savior  
And live together here in love and union  
Nor despise this blest Communion!  
O Lord, have mercy!  
Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;  
Grant that heav'nly minded He make us;  
Give Thy Church, Lord, to see  
Days of peace and unity:  
O Lord, have mercy!

**WELCOME and SHARING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**

**INVOCATION**

Pastor: We come in the name of the Father, the Son, and  
the Holy Spirit.  
**People: Amen. May we worship in spirit and in truth as  
the Father seeks.**

**OPENING HYMN**      *“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”*

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus,  
Look full in His wonderful face,  
And the things of earth will grow strangely dim,  
In the light of His glory and grace.*

**CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION**

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true  
heart and confess our sins unto God our Father,  
beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus  
Christ to grant us forgiveness. Our help is in the  
name of the Lord.  
**People: Who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord.

**People: And You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Pastor: Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**People: O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all.

**People: Amen.**

### **HYMN OF PRAISE**

*“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”*

904 v 4,3

Father, Son, and Spirit, Lord,  
Praise to You and adoration!  
Grant that we may trust Your Word,  
Confident of our salvation,  
While we here below must wander,  
Till we sing Your praises yonder.

Gracious Savior, good and kind,  
Light of Light, from God proceeding,  
Open now our heart and mind;  
Help us by Your Spirit's pleading.  
Hear the cry Your Church now raises;  
Hear and bless our prayers and praises.

### **MOMENT OF JOY**

Pastor: My friends, take joy that in Christ, You are Father God's beloved children, rescued and redeemed. You are HIS new creations,

**People: renewed, cleansed and precious in His sight.**

### **PRAYER OF THE WEEK**

Pastor: Lord Jesus, Your words are full of life and Spirit. We believe this and pray that You would have Your Word and Spirit breathe life and spirit into us – even through the hard teachings. Like Peter and the other disciples, help us to stay with You even in the hard times; and help us to say as disciples of today: Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

**People: In Your name we pray, Amen.**

**CALL TO LISTEN** *“Blessed Jesus, At Your Word”* 904 v1

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word  
We are gathered all to hear You.  
Let our hearts and souls be stirred  
Now to seek and love and fear You,  
By Your teachings, sweet and holy,  
Drawn from earth to love You solely.

## MESSAGE FROM JESUS' SERMON

Matthew 7:13-14

Pastor: God's Word from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount.

**People: Holy Spirit, remind us of what Jesus taught.**

"Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow the road that leads to life, and only a few find it."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: May we be hearers and doers of the Word.**

## SCRIPTURE READING

**Galatians 6:7-10**

Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows. Whoever sows to please their flesh, from the flesh will reap destruction; whoever sows to please the Spirit, from the Spirit will reap eternal life. Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## DISCIPLESHIP POINT about following Jesus

Reader: **How Discipleship Changes My Life:** Knowing that Jesus said "if you love Me you will obey what I command," we understand some of Jesus' teachings are in a sense "laws" or "rules" that require personal discipline (sacrifice) in our lifestyle in terms of time, energy, relationships, money, even sleep at times. We recognize and believe that we are expected to follow not simply out of obligation, but rather out of love for God and moved by His Spirit; As we follow Jesus, we seek to live by the Spirit and keep in step with the Spirit, enabling us to love God well and love our neighbor as ourselves.

## DISCIPLESHIP PRAYER

Reader: Join me in praying:

**People: Father God, I come in prayer and lay my life before You. I know that this may require personal discipline or sacrifice in my life in terms of time, energy, relationships, money or even sleep. I want to do this out of love for You God and moved by Your Spirit. Amen.**

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 13:22-30

Then Jesus went through the towns and villages, teaching as he made his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, are only a few people going to be saved?"

He said to them, "Make every effort to enter through the narrow door, because many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able to. Once the owner of the house gets up and closes the door, you will stand outside knocking and pleading, 'Sir, open the door for us.'

"But he will answer, 'I don't know you or where you come from.'

"Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you, and you taught in our streets.'

"But he will reply, 'I don't know you or where you come from. Away from me, all you evildoers!'

"There will be weeping there, and gnashing of teeth, when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, but you yourselves thrown out.

People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the kingdom of God.

Indeed there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## MESSAGE

Rev. Paul vonWerder

### PRAYER FOR THE HARVEST and OFFERING

#### OFFERING HYMN "Seek Ye First"

Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And His righteousness.  
And all these things shall be added unto you!  
Allelu, alleluia!

Ask and it shall be given unto you, Seek and ye shall find,  
Knock and the door shall be opened unto you,  
Allelu, alleluia!

Man does not live by bread alone, But by ev'ry word  
That proceeds from the mouth of the Lord,  
Allelu, alleluia!

#### APOSTLES' CREED

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**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, 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.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: (after each petition) Lord, in Your mercy...

**People: Hear our prayer.**

#### LORD'S PRAYER

**Matthew 6:9-13**

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

**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  
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 (chanted)

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Pastor: The Lord be with you. [*2 Timothy 4:22*]

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. [*Colossians 3:1*]

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. [*Psalms 136*]

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

#### PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, Almighty Father, everlasting God, and now we praise You for Jesus, Your only-begotten Son, by whose sacrifice and authority we are welcome into Your presence. Accept our thanksgiving by our presence and participation in this holy sacrament. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

## SANCTUS

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Holy, Holy, Holy, God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.  
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

## WORDS OF OUR LORD

### AGNUS DEI

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world;  
Grant us peace.

### COMMUNION HYMN

*"I Come, O Savior to Thy Table"*

618, v 4,5

Weary am I and heavy laden;  
With sin my soul is sore oppressed;  
Receive me graciously and gladden  
My heart, for I am now Thy guest.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!*

What higher gift can we inherit?  
It is faith's bond and solid base;  
It is the strength of heart and spirit,  
The covenant of hope and grace.  
*Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood  
Be for my soul the highest good!*

## POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE "Thank the Lord"

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Thank the Lord and sing His praise;  
Tell ev'ry one what He has done.  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice  
and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises  
and leads His people forth in joy  
with shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, alleluia.

### HOPE PRAYER BOX(ES)

#### OUR IDENTITY IN CHRIST (taken from Scripture)

Pastor: Let's remind ourselves who we are in Christ Jesus:

- **In Christ, I am the fruit of Jesus' life-time investment in the tree of the cross, and I look to reproduce that kind of love and mercy as I am rooted and established in Him.**
- **In Christ, I am a sheep of the great Shepherd who has given His life for me and all people. In the faces of those people, I look to see my Lord Jesus and treat them as I would treat Him.**
- **In Christ I have entered the narrow door and experience unity with God.**

#### BENEDICTION FOR THE WEEK

**Numbers 6:24-26**

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn his face toward you  
and give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

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*

*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!*

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*

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*

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*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Women of all ages are invited to join us for our kickoff Women's Group night on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:45pm in the Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served along with fellowship time and spiritual discussion. If you need childcare, contact Tina Eaton or Brenda Dorman.
- Youth Sunday, May 9, Includes Children's Church Message with J.A.M.

**EXIT INVOCATION**

Pastor: We are a discipleship-oriented church.  
 As disciples of Jesus, let's follow in His path of  
 loving and serving.

**People: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit; Amen!**

**Rev. Paul vonWerder, Pastor**

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