

FOR WHERE TWO  
OR THREE ARE  
*gathered*  
IN MY NAME  
THERE I AM  
AMONG THEM

- MATTHEW 18:20 -



**The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
September 6, 2020  
10:30 a.m.**

## **As We Gather**

"Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" Jesus' disciples asked. Our Lord responded by welcoming a child into His midst. "Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." Children are highly valued by our gracious God because they are completely dependent. On their own, they have nothing, yet they need everything. This is true for all of us in our relationship with God! On our own, we have only our sinful, broken lives and are unable to please God and fulfill His commands. Yet, in Jesus Christ, we possess everything we need! Forgiveness of sins and the guarantee of life forever with God are freely given to those who turn from their sin and receive the forgiveness earned by our crucified and risen Savior. In Jesus, we are, like children, completely dependent. We have nothing to offer, yet everything we need is ours to receive from the gracious hands of our Savior.

## **How Majestic**

by Kari Jobe, Chris Tomlin, Matt Redman and Jason Ingram

**Without a word the mountains speak  
The song that all creation sings.  
The painted skies, the sun and stars,  
The heavens tell how great You are,  
The heavens tell how great You are.**

### **Chorus**

**How majestic is Your name! How majestic is Your name!  
Jesus, wonderful, powerful,  
You're the Lord of all. How majestic is Your name!**

**A rugged cross, a humble King, how beautiful the mystery  
That love would bleed from majesty. Chorus**

### **Bridge**

**All rise, all rise in highest praise!  
Your name will reign through all eternity!  
Our hope, our strength, our victory;  
We bow down, down at Your feet. Chorus**

## **Welcome**

## **Invocation and Opening Sentences**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**People:** Amen.

Pastor: How great are your works, O LORD! Ps. 92:1-4  
Your thoughts are very deep!

**People:** **It is good to give thanks to the LORD,  
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;**

Pastor: to declare your steadfast love in the morning,  
and your faithfulness by night,

People **to the music of the lute and the harp,  
to the melody of the lyre.**

Pastor: For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;  
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

**All The Earth** by Andi Rozier, Jason Ingram, Jonathan Smith, Meredith Andrews

**From the rising of the sun To the ending of the day  
One name alone be praised Ev'ry nation tribe and tongue  
All creation lifting up Your name alone we raise**

**Chorus**

**Praise the Lord all the earth all the earth  
Bless His name only one name now and always**

**Jesus You have rescued us You are good and You are just  
One name alone be praised From the heights and from the depths  
In ev'ry heart with ev'ry breath Your name alone we raise**

**Chorus (twice)**

**Bridge**

**Ev'ry sky is filled with wonder All creation lifting higher  
The only King who reigns forever  
Who is like our God who is like our God (say)  
(REPEAT)**

**Chorus (twice)**

**Bless His name only one name now and always**

## **Confession and Forgiveness**

Pastor: Lord God, You promise grace and every blessing to all who come before You and repent of their sins. Hear us now as we, Your humble children, bring our sins before You.

*In silent prayer, we confess our sins to the Lord.*

Pastor: Most merciful Father,

**People: we come before You and admit our sinfulness. In our thoughts, words, and actions, we have failed to do what Your Word demands. We have not honored You fully with our lives, nor have we loved one another as You have first loved us. In the name of our loving Savior Jesus Christ, we ask for Your forgiveness. Grant us Your grace and renew our Spirit to love and serve You and all others as we seek to follow your will and walk in your ways to the glory of Your holy name.**

## **Words of Forgiveness**

### **Old Testament**

### **Ezekiel 33:7-9**

<sup>7</sup>"So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. <sup>8</sup>If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. <sup>9</sup>But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

### **Epistle**

### **Romans 13:1-10**

<sup>1</sup>Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

## Holy Gospel

## **Matthew 18:1-20**

<sup>1</sup>At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>5</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

<sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

<sup>10</sup>"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven. <sup>11</sup>For the Son of Man came to save the lost. <sup>12</sup>What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? <sup>13</sup>And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. <sup>14</sup>So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

<sup>15</sup>"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. <sup>16</sup>But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile

and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them."

## The Apostles' Creed

**Alive in You** by Kim Walker-Smith, Skyler Smith and Jordan Frye

**From beginning to the end, all my life is in Your hands.  
This whole world may hold me down, but it can never drown You out.  
I'm not merely flesh and bone. I was made for something more.**

**Chorus:**

**You are God; You're the Great I AM.  
Breath of life, I breathe You in.  
Even in the fire, I'm alive in You.  
You are strong in my brokenness,  
Sov'reign over ev'ry step.  
Even in the fire, I'm alive,  
I'm alive in You.**

**Through the dark I hear Your voice.  
Rising up, I will rejoice for I was lost but now I'm found,  
'cause even death can't hold you down! Chorus**

**Bridge:**

**It's no longer I who live, but Christ who lives within me.  
Christ who lives within me.  
From beginning to the end, You deserve the glory,  
You deserve the glory. (repeat) Chorus (twice)**

## Sermon

## Lift Our Hearts in Prayer

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy:

**People: Hear our prayer.**

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9-13*

## The Blessing

**Children of Light** by Kristian Stanfill, Jesse Reeves, Jason Ingram, Joseph Barrett

**It's a new day. Ev'rything changed  
When Your love came into the darkness.  
You sent the light of the Son. You sent the light of the Son.**

**Chorus:**

**Wake up! Open your eyes. No longer dead, we are alive.  
Rise up, children of light, Open the doors; Go let it shine.  
Woah! Woah! Woah! Woah!**

**There is freedom in Your Kingdom. For You Jesus we will be dancing.  
Forever Your joy is our song. Forever Your joy is our song.**

**Chorus**

**Bridge:**

**Song for the broken, let it shine. Into the shadows, let it shine.  
Hope for the whole world, Let it shine, let it shine. (repeat)  
Chorus**

**It's a new day. Ev'rything changed  
When Your love came into the darkness.  
You sent the light of the Son. You sent the light of the Son.**

Worship Leaders: Pastor Chris A. Spelbring, Proclaiming Pastor  
Pastor Brian E. Downs, Presiding Pastor

Children's Message (on-line): Ananda Baron, Principal

Vocals/Band: Vocals: Phoebe Bergt, Josh Davis; Acoustic: Josh Davis; Electric:  
Jake Meyers; Bass: Cara Clemens; Set: Chris Baron

Sound/Video/Camera: Craig Tayon/Josh Peters/Lisa Peters

### Acknowledgments

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