

# **Love for God**

Matthew 22:34-40; 1 John 5:2-4

Sunday, May 10, 2020 - week 1 of 3 in *The Way of Love* series

*Pastor Ben Pease*

Redeemer Covenant Church, Brooklyn Park, MN

**Listen at** <https://www.redeemercov.org/sermons/>

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**Prelude - "Brethren, We Have Met To Worship" (part 1)**

*Ryan Heritage\*, handbells*

**Welcome and Opening Prayer - Pastor Ben**

**Hymn - "Wonderful Grace" - Words by Haldor Lillenas, Music by Ami Anderson\***

Wonderful grace of Jesus	By it I have been pardoned
Greater than all my sin	Saved to the uttermost
How shall my tongue describe it?	Chains have been torn asunder, giving me liberty
Where shall its praise begin?	For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me.
Taking away my burden, setting my spirit free	<i>[Chorus]</i>
For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me	
<i>[Chorus] Wonderful grace of Jesus</i>	Wonderful grace of Jesus
<i>Deeper than sea</i>	Reaching the most defiled
<i>Higher than the mountain peaks</i>	By its transforming power
<i>Reaching down to me</i>	Making me God's dear child
<i>Broader than all my transgressions</i>	Purchasing peace and Heaven for all eternity
<i>Greater than all my sin and shame</i>	For the wonderful grace of Jesus reaches me
<i>O magnify the precious name of Jesus</i>	<i>[Chorus]</i>
<i>Praise His name!</i>	
	<i>Magnify Him</i>
Wonderful grace of Jesus	<i>Praise His name!</i>
Reaching to all the lost	<i>Wonderful grace of Jesus</i>

**Scripture Readings - Amy Long**

*Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16*

*John 14:15-21*

### Hymn - "Come Ye Christians, Be Committed"

*Hymn tune BEACH SPRING, words by Eva Brown Lloyd, played by Ami Andersen and friends\**

Come, all Christians, be committed To the service of the lord;  
Make your lives for him more fitted, Tune your hearts with one accord.  
Come into His courts with gladness, Each his sacred vows renew,  
Turn away from sin and sadness, Be transformed with life anew.

Of your time and talents give ye, They are gifts from God above;  
To be used by Christians freely To proclaim His wondrous love.  
Come again to serve the Savior, Tithes and offerings with you bring.  
In your work, with Him find favor, And with joy His praises sing.

Come in praise and adoration, All who in Christ's name believe;  
Worship Him with consecration, Grace and love you will receive.  
For His grace give Him the glory, For the Spirit and the Word,  
And repeat the gospel story Till mankind His name has heard.

### Sermon - "Love of God" - Pastor Ben

Matthew 22:34-40 (NIV)

**34** Hearing that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, the Pharisees got together. **35** One of them, an expert in the law, tested him with this question: **36** "Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" **37** Jesus replied: "'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.'<sup>[a]</sup> **38** This is the first and greatest commandment. **39** And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'<sup>[b]</sup> **40** All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

1 John 5:2-4 (NIV)

**2** This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. **3** In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, **4** for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith.

### Hymn - "Glory to His Name"

*Words by Elish A Hoffman, Music by John Stockton, recording notes below\**

Down at the cross where my Saviour died,  
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried -  
There to my heart was the blood applied;  
Glory to His name!

I am so wondrously saved from sin;  
Jesus so sweetly abides within,  
There at the cross where He took me in;  
Glory to His name!

*Glory to His name, Glory to His name;  
There to my heart was the blood applied;  
Glory to His name!*

Oh, precious fountain that saves from sin! I am  
so glad I have entered in;  
There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean;  
Glory to His name!

*refrain*

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet; Cast  
thy poor soul at the Saviour's feet;  
Plunge in today and be made complete;  
Glory...

*refrain*

### Benediction

#### Postlude - "Brethren, We Have Met To Worship" (part 2)

*Ryan Heritage, handbells\**

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#### **\*Music Notes:**

The bell choir music heard as prelude and postlude is performed by **Ryan Heritage**, minister of music at First Baptist Church in Augusta, GA. During this unique situation of worshiping remotely, all church musicians are getting creative. The entirety of this bell video can be viewed at [vimeo.com/fbcaugusta](https://vimeo.com/fbcaugusta).

One of our guest musicians this week is Minnesota native **Ami Andersen**, long time friend and colleague of Nathan and Naomi Bird. Ami and Naomi studied with the same piano teacher through high school, and Ami shares with Nathan the alma mater of the University of Northwestern - St. Paul. She is a talented musician and songwriter currently residing in Minneapolis with her husband Jason and two young daughters. Each of the songs used in this service are from Ami's CD entitled *Shelter - Hymns Resung*. Collaborators include Zach Miller, arranger; Bruce Balgaard, acoustic guitar; Jared Sells and Dan Lawonn, cello; Nathan Wilson, mandolin and violin; Vocals - Maria Schmidt, Alexa McKeen, Daniel McKeen, Nathan Bird, Jason Andersen and Bruce Balgaard.

*Thank you, Redeemer, for sharing these moments of worship as we continue to grow together in knowledge and love for God from our personal home sanctuaries.*