

# Living Water Fellowship

8<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Pentecost – 31<sup>st</sup> July 2022

## COME TO JESUS

PRE-SERVICE MEDITATION      CHRIST BE ALL AROUND ME (ALL SONS & DAUGHTERS)

### WELCOME & PRAYER:

## GROW IN HIS GRACE

**SONG:**      VIDEO – ALL GLORY BE TO CHRIST (Kings Kaleidoscope)-CCL Licence 384660

**BIBLE READING:**      Romans 15:5-12

<sup>5</sup> May God, who gives this patience & encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. <sup>6</sup> Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise & glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>7</sup> Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.

<sup>8</sup> Remember that Christ came as a servant to the Jews to show that God is true to the promises he made to their ancestors. <sup>9</sup> He also came so that the Gentiles might give glory to God for his mercies to them. That is what the psalmist meant when he wrote:

“For this, I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing praises to your name.”

<sup>10</sup> And in another place it is written, “Rejoice with his people, you Gentiles.”

<sup>11</sup> And yet again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles. Praise him, all you people of the earth.”

<sup>12</sup> And in another place Isaiah said,

“The heir to David’s throne will come, & he will rule over the Gentiles.  
They will place their hope on him.”

### CHILDREN’S TIME:

**BIBLE READING:**      Romans 15:13-21

<sup>13</sup> I pray that God, the source of hope, will fill you completely with joy & peace because you trust in him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> I am fully convinced, my dear brothers & sisters, that you are full of goodness. You know these things so well you can teach each other all about them. <sup>15</sup> Even so, I have been bold enough to write about some of these points, knowing that all you need is this reminder.

For by God’s grace, <sup>16</sup> I am a special messenger from Christ Jesus to you Gentiles. I bring you the Good News so that I might present you as an acceptable offering to God, made holy by the Holy Spirit. <sup>17</sup> So I have reason to be enthusiastic about all Christ Jesus has done through me in my service to God. <sup>18</sup> Yet I dare not boast about anything except what Christ has done through me, bringing the Gentiles to God by my message & by the way I worked among them. <sup>19</sup> They were convinced by the power of miraculous signs & wonders & by the

power of God's Spirit. In this way, I have fully presented the Good News of Christ from Jerusalem all the way to Illyricum.

<sup>20</sup> My ambition has always been to preach the Good News where the name of Christ has never been heard, rather than where a church has already been started by someone else. <sup>21</sup> I have been following the plan spoken of in the Scriptures, where it says, "Those who have never been told about him will see, & those who have never heard of him will understand."

#### **FAITH CHAT:**

1. What circumstances or situations cause you to feel as if your faith has run out of steam?
2. What do you do to recharge & re-energize your faith?  
How does that usually work for you?

**THE MESSAGE:**      *OPERATION GOSPEL: GOSPEL ENDURANCE*

**OFFERING SONG:**      *VIDEO – Living Hope (Phil Wickham) CCLI 384660*

**PRAYERS:**

**THE COMMUNION:**

*Words of Institution & The Lord's Prayer:*

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, & the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

*Worship during Communion:*      *VIDEO – GOODNESS OF GOD (Maranatha Music)-CCL Licence 384660*

*GO IN HIS POWER*

**THE BLESSING:**

**(Name), † child of God, the Father grant you perseverance, endurance & hope. Amen.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**BLESSING:**      Romans 16:25-27

<sup>25</sup> Now all glory to God, who is able to make you strong, just as my Good News says. This message about Jesus Christ has revealed his plan for you Gentiles, a plan kept secret from the beginning of time. <sup>26</sup> But now as the prophets foretold & as the eternal God has commanded, this message is made known to all Gentiles everywhere, so that they too might believe & obey him. <sup>27</sup> All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen.

**SONG:**      *VIDEO – DEATH WAS ARRESTED (Seth Condrey/Northpoint Community Church)-CCL Licence 384660*

*SHOW HIS LOVE*

#### **Group Bible Study/Discussion:**

1. Read Romans 15:5-21 & 16:25-27. What questions immediately come to mind? What do you find most challenging/encouraging? Why?
2. How do you define "endurance" as a Christian? What will it require of you?
3. What is so powerful about a diverse group of people welcoming each other & physically gathering for worship in one unified, harmonious voice? Why do you think God is glorified in that? How could that gathering not glorify God? What would prevent it?
4. Read what Paul says about the Scriptures in 15:4. Which of these three things he says surprises you the most? How can you go about applying each of these? How do you think not-yet-Christians view the purpose of Scripture?
5. Concerning salvation (15:8-9), Jews praise God for His faithfulness & Gentiles praise God for His mercy. Why do you think Paul made these distinctions? What does the expansion of the gospel's reach from Jews to Gentiles demonstrate about what God accomplishes through the death, resurrection & rule of Jesus Christ? (See Eph 2:14)
6. What is the common element in all of the Old Testament texts Paul cites in vss 9-12? What is his point? Do you agree? Why?
7. What strikes you about God being described here as "the source of hope"?
8. From verse 14, what the three qualities of the Roman believers bring commendation from Paul? In your own words, what do you think each of these qualities mean? Do you see these characteristics in your own life? If So, how? If not, why not? In either case, what's your responsibility according to Paul?
9. In worship, we noted there's a "cascade" effect...from the believer, to those who have not yet been reached by the gospel. What does Paul say is required among the church for that "cascade effect" to occur? Is this only the responsibility of the apostle, or the designated congregational leadership? If you think so, why? If you think not, what happens now?
10. What's the purpose, according to this text for Gospel Endurance? How well are you living that purpose? What does this text call you to do?