



REMEMBER  
*Lot's wife.*

YESHUA, LUKE 17:32 NKJV

"escape of lot from sodom" | mattheus merian, 1651



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# *Welcome!*

*We are glad that you have joined us for worship today.*

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**November 10, 2019**

*Welcome! We are glad that you have joined us for worship today.*



We are pleased you could join us. May your worship with us draw you closer to God and equip you for a life of even more dynamic Christian discipleship. There is a visitor/worshiper welcome card in the pew rack or under your chair. Please take a moment to fill it out, then drop it in the basket at the time of the offerings. We welcome your comments. If you need assistance during the service, please speak to one of the ushers.

## **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

*(P: = Pastor, C: = Congregation, ♪ := Congregation sings)*

All scripture quotations are taken from the NIV and are used by permission.

**WORSHIP THEME:** *Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead*

**OPENING HYMN:** # 208 *Great God, What Do I See and Hear*

*Please stand*

**P:** We gather in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

**P:** A time is coming when all who are in their graves will hear God's voice and come out.

**C: Those who have done good will rise to live, and those who have done evil will rise to be condemned. (John 5:28-29)**



Kin - dle a love that flows from Your throne. Oh,  
 pur - i - fy my heart,  
 Pur - i - fy my heart.

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### THE PRAYER FOR THE DAY

**P:** Lord God Almighty, rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and to the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Please be seated*

### THE WORD

#### FIRST LESSON: [Genesis 19:1-3a, 12-29](#)

The two angels arrived at Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting in the gateway of the city. When he saw them, he got up to meet them and bowed down with his face to the ground. “My lords,” he said, “please turn aside to your servant’s house. You can wash your feet and spend the night and then go on your way early in the morning.”

“No,” they answered, “we will spend the night in the square.”

But he insisted so strongly that they did go with him and entered his house.

The two men said to Lot, “Do you have anyone else here—sons-in-law, sons or daughters, or anyone else in the city who belongs to you? Get them out of here, because we are going to destroy this place. The outcry to the LORD against its people is so great that he has sent us to destroy it.”

So Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were pledged to marry his daughters. He said, “Hurry and get out of this place, because the LORD is about to destroy the city!” But his sons-in-law thought he was joking.

With the coming of dawn, the angels urged Lot, saying, “Hurry! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, or you will be swept away when the city is punished.”

When he hesitated, the men grasped his hand and the hands of his wife and of his two daughters and led them safely out of the city, for the LORD was merciful to them. As soon as they had brought them out, one of them said, “Flee for your lives! Don’t look back, and don’t stop anywhere in the plain! Flee to the mountains or you will be swept away!”

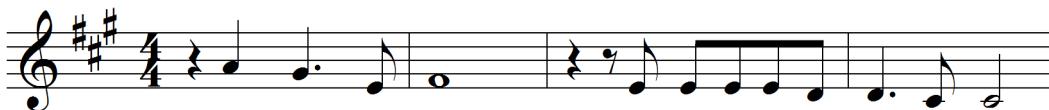
But Lot said to them, “No, my lords, please! Your servant has found favor in your eyes, and you have shown great kindness to me in sparing my life. But I can’t flee to the mountains; this disaster will overtake me, and I’ll die. Look, here is a town near enough to run to, and it is small. Let me flee to it—it is very small, isn’t it? Then my life will be spared.” He said to him, “Very well, I will grant this request too; I will not overthrow the town you speak of. But flee there quickly, because I cannot do anything until you reach it.” (That is why the town was called Zoar.)

By the time Lot reached Zoar, the sun had risen over the land. Then the LORD rained down burning sulfur on Sodom and Gomorrah—from the LORD out of the heavens. Thus he overthrew those cities and the entire plain, including all those living in the cities—and also the vegetation in the land. But Lot’s wife looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

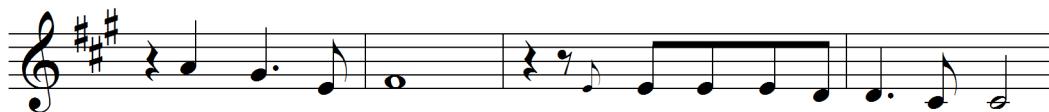
Early the next morning Abraham got up and returned to the place where he had stood before the LORD. He looked down toward Sodom and Gomorrah, toward all the land of the plain, and he saw dense smoke rising from the land, like smoke from a furnace.

So when God destroyed the cities of the plain, he remembered Abraham, and he brought Lot out of the catastrophe that overthrew the cities where Lot had lived.

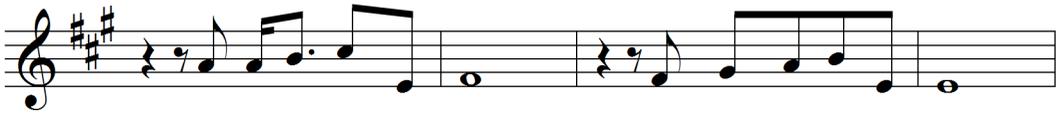
READING RESPONSE:    *All Heaven Declares*



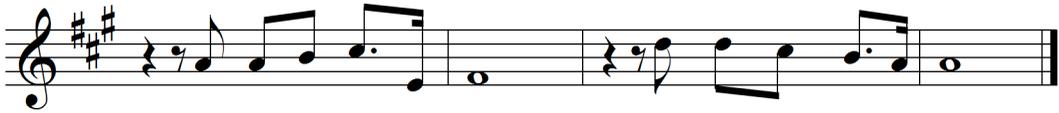
All heav'n de- clares                    the glo-ry of the ris - en Lord.  
I will pro-claim                    the glo-ry of the ris - en Lord.



Who can com-pare                    with the beauty of the Lord.  
Who once was slain                    to rec - on - cile\_ man to God.



For-ev-er He will be the Lamb up-on the throne.  
For-ev-er You will be the Lamb up-on the throne.



I glad-ly bow the knee and wor-ship Him a-lone.  
I glad-ly bow the knee and wor-ship Him a-lone.

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## SECOND LESSON: **2 Peter 3:3-13**

First of all, you must understand that in the last days scoffers will come, scoffing and following their own evil desires. They will say, “Where is this ‘coming’ he promised? Ever since our fathers died, everything goes on as it has since the beginning of creation.” But they deliberately forget that long ago by God’s word the heavens existed and the earth was formed out of water and by water. By these waters also the world of that time was deluged and destroyed. By the same word the present heavens and earth are reserved for fire, being kept for the day of judgment and destruction of ungodly men.

But do not forget this one thing, dear friends: With the Lord a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like a day. The Lord is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything in it will be laid bare.

Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

## GOOD NEWS FOR KIDS

*We invite the children ages 3 through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade to come forward for a message from God’s Word just for them.*

## SERMON HYMN: # 220 ***O’er the Distant Mountains Breaking***

*Please stand for the reading of the sermon text*

SERMON THEME: So, when's the big day?  
First some qualifiers  
Then a surprise  
How to be ready

TEXT: **Luke 17:20-36**

Once, having been asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, Jesus replied, "The kingdom of God does not come with your careful observation, nor will people say, 'Here it is,' or 'There it is,' because the kingdom of God is within you."

Then he said to his disciples, "The time is coming when you will long to see one of the days of the Son of Man, but you will not see it. Men will tell you, 'There he is!' or 'Here he is!' Do not go running off after them. For the Son of Man in his day will be like the lightning, which flashes and lights up the sky from one end to the other. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation.

"Just as it was in the days of Noah, so also will it be in the days of the Son of Man. People were eating, drinking, marrying and being given in marriage up to the day Noah entered the ark. Then the flood came and destroyed them all.

"It was the same in the days of Lot. People were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building. But the day Lot left Sodom, fire and sulfur rained down from heaven and destroyed them all.

"It will be just like this on the day the Son of Man is revealed. On that day no one who is on the roof of his house, with his goods inside, should go down to get them. Likewise, no one in the field should go back for anything. Remember Lot's wife! Whoever tries to keep his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it. I tell you, on that night two people will be in one bed; one will be taken and the other left. Two women will be grinding grain together; one will be taken and the other left. Two men will be in the field, one will be taken and the other left."

*After the sermon please stand*

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(all say)*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.**

*Please be seated*

### CONNECTION CARDS

*At this time we ask everyone to take a moment and fill out one of the connection cards. You will find them in the hymnal rack in front of you or under your chair. Please fill out one card per family and place it in the offering basket.*

### THE OFFERING

*Dear guests, please don't feel obligated to take part in our offering. We're glad you're here to listen to the message about Jesus.*

*If members or guests would like to give an offering electronically, they can do so by going to [ascensionplymouth.com](http://ascensionplymouth.com) and click on the GIVE tab on your right hand side or go to <https://secure.subsplash.com/ui/access/ZJJGFB/>.*



SUBSPASH®

*After the offering please stand and sing:*

♪: (Hymn #609:1)

**We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator!  
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring;  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

### THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P:** Out of the depths we cry to you, O Lord; O Lord, hear our voices.

**C:** **Let your ears be attentive to our cries for mercy.**

**P:** Heavenly Father, we confess with sorrow that we have sinned and deserve only your anger and punishment.

**C:** **If you kept a record of our sins, we would surely be lost.**

**P:** We confess with joy that your unfailing love has redeemed us.

**C:** **Our hope is in you and in your salvation.**

**P:** Lord Jesus Christ, you first came to this world not to judge fallen humanity but to save it by your suffering, death, and resurrection. You came to give life to us who were spiritually dead by your powerful words of truth. And so your promise stands that all who trust in you will not be condemned because they have crossed over from death to life.

**C:** **You want no one to suffer wrath but all to receive forgiveness and the free gift of everlasting life.**

P: Precious Savior, the day is surely drawing near when you will return from heaven with a loud command and the trumpet call of God. At the sound of your voice all the dead will rise from their graves to be judged according to what they have done.

**C: While we wait keep us in daily repentance and humble faith so we are always prepared to stand before your judgment throne.**

P: In the meantime, the things of heaven and earth are passing away before our very eyes. We beg you, Lord Jesus, to strengthen by your words that will never pass away all who are in any affliction or trouble, heartache, illness, or pain. Especially... [*special prayers for members of our church family*]. ...We ask all this trusting in your unfailing promises.

**C: Remove all fear from their hearts and help them to look forward to their full and final healing.**

P: Triune God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—we eagerly wait for Jesus to return and make all things right and all things new. May he find us faithfully enduring to the end, through the power of the Spirit.

**C: Come quickly Lord Jesus! May your grace be with us! Amen.**

### LORD'S PRAYER (*all pray*)

**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, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### BLESSING

P: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.



*Please be seated*

CLOSING HYMN: # 213 *Forever with the Lord*

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVED:

† Organist: Sarah Rindt