**THE STORY OF GOD**

**The story**

 **of God…**

 **and us!**



***Join us each week for The Story of God sermon series!***

 ***(Don’t forget- if you miss one, you can find it on our***

***YouTube channel at GraceLutheranRoyersford or our***

 ***website*** [***www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com***](http://www.GraceLutheranRoyersford.com)***!)***

**Date Topic Readings**

May 30 Intro to Bible Hebrews 4:12, Luke 2:41-49, Ezekiel 3:1-3

*Three things to know about reading the story of God: relationship/literature types/perspective. Let’s fall in love with scripture!*

June 6 Church Music Sunday

June 13 Confirmation Mark 4:26-34

*God’s kingdom as a mustard shrub… wildly invasive! Living into God’s untamed dreams.*

June 20 God & Creation Genesis 1:1-2:4

 *Creation as a wildly creative, imaginative, loving act. Why are there two creation stories? How do we read them? What do they tell us about God?*

June 27 Sin Enters Creation Genesis 3:8-13, 6:5-8, 17-22 & 9:8-11, 11:4-9

*Exploring the understanding of sin through the stories of Adam & Eve, the Tower of Babel, & Noah. Why does God allow sin? What does sin do to our relationship with God?*

July 4 The Binding of Isaac Gen 22:1-19

 *How to we enter in and engage with a story that is so frightening? What is God like in this story? What is God NOT like? What was really going on? How do we read it? How did the Jewish people read it?*

July 11 God’s Leaders Genesis 28:41-45, 37:1-8

*God’s choice of leaders can be surprising! What can we learn about God from the stories of Joseph, and Jacob & Esau? What are the characteristics of biblical leaders?*

July 18 Flight from Egypt Exodus 16:1-12

*God’s love for the most vulnerable. What does salvation mean? How and when is salvation experienced, and by who?*

July 25 10 C & more! Exodus 20:1-18

 *The Law as a gift. The Law as God’s word. Do the Ten Commandments limit us, or do they free us?*

August 1 Violence in the OT Joshua 6:1-7, 15-17, 20-21

*What do we do with Old Testament violence? How does this violence affect our understanding of God? Exploring who God is (and isn’t) through the story of Jericho.*

August 8 Job Job 1:1, 2:1-10 & Job 38:1-7, 34-41

 *Why do good people suffer? Why is Job considered a literary masterpiece? What kind of book is it? Why does Job bring about so many questions?*

August 15 Prophets Isaiah 24:4-8, 11:6-9, Jeremiah 8:18-22, Micah 6:6-8,

Jonah 3:10-4:5

*Prophets- who were they? Reading them through their perspective and purpose to reveal God. How does context and the “lens of Jesus” help us make sense of these?*

August 22 Birth of Jesus Luke 2:1-21

 *What was happening in the world when Jesus was born? Who were all the characters in this part of God’s story? What do each of them tell us about God?*

August 29 Miracles of Jesus John 2:1-11, John 4:46-53

*What does Jesus require of those he heals? (What kind of God is this?) Why doesn’t everyone receive a miracle? Where’s the science?*

Sept 5 Jesus & Women Mark 7:24-30, John 4:7-15, Matthew 26:6-13

*What do we learn about God (and ourselves) in these unlikely relationships? Finding the holy in the scandalous.*

Sept 12 Parables Luke 10:25-37, Luke 15:11-32

 *Why did Jesus teach in parables? What ARE parables? What do these two of Jesus’ most famous parables tell us about God?*

Sept 19 Last Supper Luke 22:7-23, John 13:1-10a; 33-35

 *Sacramental relationship between God and God’s people. How do the events of the Last Supper form our relationship with God and each other today?*

Sept 26 Disciples Matthew 16:13-17, John 20:24-29, Luke 8:1-3

*Faithful followers full of courage? Bumbling sinners looking for hope? All of the above! Blessing…responsibility…grace in discipleship.*

Oct 3 Crucifixion Luke 23:32-34, Mark 15:33-39

*Why did Jesus have to die? Who did Jesus die for? Finding God in the places of suffering.*

Oct 10 Resurrection Luke 24:1-27

 *How is resurrection a part of all of God’s creation? What does Jesus’ resurrection mean for us?*

Oct 17 Consecration Sunday

Oct 24 Pentecost Acts 2:1-8

*The good news of Christ continues through the gift of the Holy Spirit. God’s empowerment of believers to continue bringing transformation.*

Oct 31 Paul & his Letters Romans 1:16-17, Ephesians 2:4-9, Galatians 2:16-21

 *Who was Paul? What did he mean by saved by grace? How are he and Martin Luther similar and different?* *How do Paul and Luther move us toward “always reforming?”*

Nov 7 All Saints John 11:32-44, Isaiah 25:6-9

 *The promise of resurrection life…the scope of God’s love.*

Nov 14 Other Letters 2 Timothy 3:16-17, James 2:14-17, 1 Peter 1:20-23

 *Who were the other writers of the Epistles in the New Testament? Did they always agree? Do we read each of their letters in the same way? Do we give them all the same weight today as they did 2000 years ago?*

Nov 21 Revelation Revelation 1:1-3; 21:1-7; 22:1-5

*Exploring apocalyptic literature- what it is and isn’t. Who is this God? Where does this final vision of scripture place us? Where does it place God?*

