

Order of Service - September 6, 2020

UNPRECEDENTED

When I think of all this, I fall to my knees and pray to the Father, the Creator of everything in heaven and on earth. I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. **Ephesians 3:14-16 (NLT)**

Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God. **Ephesians 3:17-19 (NLT)**

1. Is God ever surprised? No.

Remember the things I have done in the past. For I alone am God! I am God, and there is none like me. Only I can tell you the future before it even happens. Everything I plan will come to pass, for I do whatever I wish. Isaiah 46:9-10 (NLT)

God always has a plan. (Ephesians 3:9-11)

2. Where is God in a Pandemic?

He's on His throne where He's always been.

But the LORD is in His holy Temple; the LORD still rules from heaven. He watches everyone closely, examining every person on earth.

Psalm 11:4-5 (NLT)

3. What answers does God provide in unprecedented times?

Now all glory to God, who is able, through His mighty power at work within us, to accomplish infinitely more than we might ask or think. Glory to Him in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations forever and ever! Amen. **Ephesians 3:20-21 (NLT)**

• His answer is His love for us.

Since He did not spare even His own Son but gave Him up for us all, won't He also give us everything else? Romans 8:32 (NLT)

• His answer is His faithfulness to us.

Understand, therefore, that the LORD your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps His covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes His unfailing love on those who love Him and obey His commands. **Deuteronomy 7:9 (NLT)**

His answer is His <u>promise</u> to never leave or forsake us.

So be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid and do not panic before them. For the LORD your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you. **Deuteronomy 31:6 (NLT)**

His answer is to be with us.

Going deeper on your own: This week, read Paul's prayer in Ephesians 3:14-21, and ask yourself, "Does the way I'm responding to this pandemic reflect that my life is empowered by the Spirit of God and I am fully rooted in the unchanging love of God?" If so, how can I encourage others with this hope in God? If not, what needs to change? Take time to ask the Lord to help you live a life that reflects the hope of Christ to others, especially when life gets tough.

[&]quot;Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Matthew 28:20 (NLT)