



ROMANS



Service Guide

ORDER OF SERVICE 04.21.2024

Call to Worship *include text*

Song: *Rejoice (Kensrue)*

Song: *All the Poor and Powerless*

Congregational Confession: The Apostle's Creed

Song: *Lord I Need You*

Reading of the Sermon Text & Prayer: *Romans 15:14-33*

SERMON: *"Ordinary People, Extraordinary God" Romans 15:14-33*

Song: *Holy Spirit*

Song: *Look and See*

Blessing & Sending *Numbers 6:22-27*

Sermon Text Next Week: *Romans 16:1-2*

From N.T. Wright —

We should never underestimate what God will do through things which we see as small steps to a larger end.

SERMON TEXT *Romans 15:14-33*

FROM JERUSALEM TO ILLYRICUM

14 My brothers and sisters, I myself am convinced about you that you also are full of goodness, filled with all knowledge, and able to instruct one another. 15 Nevertheless, I have written to remind you more boldly on some points because of the grace given me by God 16 to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles, serving as a priest of the gospel of God. God's purpose is that the Gentiles may be an acceptable offering, sanctified by the Holy Spirit. 17 Therefore I have reason to boast in Christ Jesus regarding what pertains to God. 18 For I would not dare say anything except what Christ has accomplished through me by word and deed for the obedience of the Gentiles, 19 by the power of miraculous signs and wonders, and by the power of God's Spirit. As a result, I have fully proclaimed the gospel of Christ from Jerusalem all the way around to Illyricum., 20 My aim is to preach the gospel where Christ has not been named, so that I will not build on someone else's foundation, 21 but, as it is written,

*Those who were not told about him will see,
and those who have not heard will understand.*

PAUL'S TRAVEL PLANS

22 That is why I have been prevented many times from coming to you. 23 But now I no longer have any work to do in these regions, and I have strongly desired for many years to come to you 24 whenever I travel to Spain. For I hope to see you when I pass through and to be assisted by you for my journey there, once I have first enjoyed your company for a while. 25 Right now I am traveling to Jerusalem to serve the saints, 26 because Macedonia and Achaia were pleased to make a contribution for the poor

among the saints in Jerusalem. 27 Yes, they were pleased, and indeed are indebted to them. For if the Gentiles have shared in their spiritual benefits, then they are obligated to minister to them in material needs. 28 So when I have finished this and safely delivered the funds to them,, I will visit you on the way to Spain. 29 I know that when I come to you, I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

30 Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, through our Lord Jesus Christ and through the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in prayers to God on my behalf. 31 Pray that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea, that my ministry to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, 32 and that, by God's will, I may come to you with joy and be refreshed together with you.

33 May the God of peace be with all of you. Amen.

NOTES

The ministry of Paul is
a **priestly** ministry (v14-16),
a **powerful** ministry (v17-19),
a **pioneer** ministry (v19-21),
with **missions** plans (v22-29)
and **missions** prayers (v30-33).

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

For discussion at home, on your own, with your family, or in your community group...

- 1) What is Paul's authority and how does he describe his calling? (Romans 15:14-19)
- 2) What does Paul mean by describing his calling as being like that of an Old Covenant priest in the Temple? (15:16)
- 3) What is Paul's ambition? (his "aim", 15:20)
- 4) How does the verse he quotes in 15:21 help us understand his ambition / aim?
- 5) What two reasons does he give for planning to visit Rome now? (15:23,24)
- 6) What does he hope the church in Rome will do when he visits? (15:24)
- 7) What must Paul do first? (15:25-29)
- 8) What does Paul ask them to pray for him? (15:30-33)
- 9) Why and how is prayer crucial to the mission, both for Paul, and for us?
- 10) What might we learn from Paul's response to changing plans, as relates to when plans change in our lives?