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 Central Congregational Church
 "For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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The Crucifixion of God

Romans 3:21-26

Series: Sinners in the Hands of a Loving God
 (Summer Reading Series)

Central Passage

Romans 3:21–26 (ESV) — *21 But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— 22 the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: 23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God's righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. 26 It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.*

Central Thought: Our separation from God through our _____ to his covenant love, is overcome as we place our faith in the _____ of Jesus – God incarnate and the true Israelite – culminating in his willing _____ of himself on a Roman cross.

Key Words & Ultimate Truths

- ❖ Righteousness: _____ Faithfulness
 - Genesis 1 & 2 and Exodus 20:1-18 (The Ten Commandments)

Matthew 22:35–40 (ESV) — *35 And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 36 "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" 37 And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. 38 This is the great and first commandment. 39 And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. 40 On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets."*

○ Sin/Unrighteousness: A failure to _____.

- ❖ Justification: To be declared " _____ or 'in the _____'."
- ❖ Redemption: To be _____ back from _____ to and the _____ of sin (covenant unfaithfulness).
- ❖ Propitiation (Atonement): A _____ seeking God's mercy in light of his _____ judgment of our sin.

Hebrews 9:22 (ESV) — *22 Indeed, under the law almost everything is purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins. (See also all of Hebrews 3)*

The Scandal of the Cross...The Crucifixion of God

- ❖ The cross is the ultimate expression of the _____ heart of love that God has for his creation, as in Christ Jesus – God in human form – he bears both the _____ of and _____ for our sinfulness.

Philippians 2:5–9 (ESV) — *5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

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