

Marks of Discipleship

Sunday, October 4, 2020



St. John's
Lutheran Church

Week Four: The Practice of Daily Devotion

Worship Leadership: "The Messengers"

Pastor Dave Efflandt, Preaching

Verse 1

We all start on the outside; the outside looking in. This is where grace begins.
We were hungry we were thirsty, with nothing left to give. Oh the shape that we
were in. Just when all hope seemed lost. Love opened the door for us.

Chorus

(He said) come to the table. Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.
Take your place beside the Savior, sit down and be set free. Come to the table

Verse 2

Come meet this motley crew of misfits, these liars and these thieves.
There's no one unwelcome here. So that sin and shame that you've brought with
you. You can leave it at the door. And let mercy draw you near.

Bridge

To the thief and to the doubter. To the hero and the coward.
To the pris'ner and the soldier. To the young and to the older.
All who hunger all who thirst. All the last and all the first.
All the paupers and the princes. All who've failed you've been forgiven.
All who dream and all who suffer. All who've loved and lost another.
All the chained and all the free. All who follow all who lead.
Anyone who's been let down. All the lost you have been found.
All who've been labeled right or wrong. To ev'ryone who hears this song.

Ending

Woah sit down and be set free. Come to the table. Come to the table.
Just sit down and rest awhile. Just sit down and rest awhile. Come to the table.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation. Amen. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Faithful God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God's work in the world. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Join us, Lord, as we gather under the majesty of the Tree of Life that is your Word. Guide us on our journey, as we explore each branch, and shake them to see what fruits of the Spirit will fall our way. May we never be disappointed by the sustenance that your Word gives to us through the inspiration of your Holy Spirit. We pray this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The First Reading: Psalm 119:97-105

L: The first reading is from Psalm 119.

⁹⁷Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long. ⁹⁸Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me. ⁹⁹I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation. ¹⁰⁰I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts. ¹⁰¹I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word. ¹⁰²I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me. ¹⁰³How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth! ¹⁰⁴Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore I hate every false way. ¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

The Second Reading: Deuteronomy 6:4-9

L: The second reading is from Deuteronomy, the sixth chapter.

⁴Hear, O Israel: The LORD is our God, the LORD alone. ⁵You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might. ⁶Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. ⁷Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. ⁸Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, ⁹and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

The Third Reading: 2 Timothy 3:16 and 2 Peter 1:20-21

L: The third reading is from the second Timothy and second Peter.

^{2Tim3:16}All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness. ^{2Pet1:20}First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 9:9-13

L: The second reading is from the Gospel according to Matthew, the ninth chapter.

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" ¹²But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

SERMON:

Pastor Dave Efflandt

Daily Devotion

Verse 1

In this time of desperation, when all we know is doubt and fear
There is only one foundation: we believe, we believe
In this broken generation, when all is dark You help us see
There is only one salvation: we believe, we believe

Chorus

We believe in God the Father
We believe in Jesus Christ
We believe in the Holy Spirit
And He's given us new life
We believe in the crucifixion
We believe that He conquered death
We believe in the resurrection
And He's coming back again
(We believe)

Verse 2

So let our faith be more than anthems, greater than the songs we sing
In our weakness and temptations: we believe, we believe

Bridge

Let the lost be found and the dead be raised
In the here and now let love invade
Let the church live loud our God will save
We believe we believe
And the gates of hell will not prevail
For the pow'r of God has torn the veil
Now we know Your love will never fail
We believe we believe

Ending

He's coming back again
He's coming back again
We believe we believe

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. You have set before us these gifts of your good creation. Prepare us for your heavenly banquet, nourish us with this rich food and drink, and send us forth to set tables in the midst of a suffering world, through the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship: Sunday at 9AM on the lawn; 10AM Zoom. Online available afternoon

→ **Communion 1st and 3rd Sundays; Wednesdays Following**

Wednesday at 6:30 PM at SJK, which will also be live streamed to Facebook

Bible Studies and Other Events

Marks of Discipleship Studies: Tuesdays at 11 AM and Thursdays at 6 PM via Zoom

Women of Faith: Thursdays at 9:30 AM via Zoom

Bible and Brew: 7 PM Thursday Evenings

BLESSING

L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor, ✝ and give you His peace. Amen.

SENDING SONG: Open the Eyes of My Heart The Messengers

Chorus

Open the eyes of my heart Lord
Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You
I want to see You

Verse

To see You high and lifted up
Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love
As we sing holy holy holy

Bridge

Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
Holy holy holy
I want to see You

CCLI Song # 2298355

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DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Christ is with you. Thanks be to God.

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