

Presbyterian Church of Henderson

Worship Service 10:00 AM

June 27, 2021

Gospel of Mark Series

Chiming the Hour Kristin Jones, Director of Music

Welcome and Announcements

- Father's Day gift
- (See Insert)

Organ Prelude

*Call to Worship

I wait for the Lord,

my soul waits, and in God's word I hope.

My soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning,

more than those who watch for the morning.

In faith, let us turn to our God, whose love is sure.

*Hymn PH 262 "God of the Age, Whose Almighty Hand"

1 God of the ages, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

2 Thy love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by Thee our lot is cast;
Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide and stay;
Thy Word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

3 From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense;
Thy true religion in our hearts increase;
Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

4 Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way,
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with love and grace divine,
And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

*Call to Confession

Because of such great mercy, God is ready to forgive all the ways we fail to live in faithfulness. Relying on that mercy, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

*Prayer of Confession (unison)

Trusting you does not always come easy when each day we are faced with the ugliness of the world. We do not believe that love conquers fear. We are not convinced that power comes through weakness. We

cannot conceive how you could heal us. Forgive our lack of faith, O God, and renew our trust in you, for we would be disciples of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

If the Lord kept count of all our sins, who could stand? But with God there is forgiveness; Christ gives us peace. Thanks be to God!

***Gloria Patri** (PH 579)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

***Passing the Peace**

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Let us share with one another a sign of Christ's Peace.

Prayer for Illumination

By the power of your Spirit, speak your Word to us, O God. Show us who you are and who you are calling us to be, for the sake of your Son and our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Reading Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD. Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications! If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand? But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered. I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning. O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

Anthem "Rain Down" Cortex and Carter

Second Reading Mark 14:12-31

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there." So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is

written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

Children's Sermon Pastor Eric

SERMON "The Foreknowledge of Jesus"

Mark 14:12-31

June 27, 2021

SETTING

- Jesus is anointed at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper by according to Mark an unnamed woman (by the way John's gospel say that it was Mary of Bethany)
- From this point onward, you will see a noticeable gloom that will settle upon the remaining days of Jesus life.
- But ever since Jesus was anointed it became like his death sentence where Jesus had to let the inevitable occur to him.
- Some scholars believe that from here matters escaped his control and that Jesus had become like a helpless victim.
- Some say he was like a "mangled doll in the merciless gears of history."
- I believe these observations are absolutely false.
- Jesus demonstrated profound command, and divine authority from the very beginning of his ministry to his final journey to the cross.
- Jesus ability to demonstrate his sovereignty and all-knowing nature offers much hope for us in hopeless times.

Jesus Demonstrates His Foreknowledge Through:

1. Preparations for Passover

12 On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?" 13 So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, 14 and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' 15 He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

16 So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

- What we see here is the precise instructions given to the disciples to prepare for the Passover at some undisclosed location.
- When you read these words, it sounds very familiar to the preparations of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, now these are explicit instructions to prepare for his death.
- Remember, in the paragraph prior to this, Judas went to the chief priest to betray Jesus.
- This location was undisclosed because if Judas had known the location of their gathering before hand, it would have hastened his arrest.
- If you think about it, this situation is another way Jesus foreknew that the authorities were looking for him and desired to arrest him.
- But this celebration of Passover was not a routine meal as usual.
- Notice the phrase in v. 14, "The Teacher asks, Where is **my** guest room where **I** may eat Passover with my disciples?"
- Jesus wanted to control the environment of the Passover meal because this meal was THE most important meal to be eaten in the history of the world!!!!
- Why? Because it identified himself as the Passover lamb who would deliver Israel and bring salvation to the entire world.
- What is significant about this meal is that the Passover would graphically explain the centrality of Christ for the salvation of humanity.
- Notice how in our text today, the ritual of the Seder is never mentioned.
- It almost seems to have fallen into the background, because Jesus had now become the focal point
- Jesus' blood must be the wine to us and his flesh our bread.
- Jesus did not come to Jerusalem to celebrate a feast.
- He came to die, and everything he said during the meal points to his death.
- So Jesus was not just another cog in the wheel of destiny, but he definitely demonstrated his foreknowledge which shows that when things seem out of control, God still is in control and will always be.
- Jesus knew everything in advance to initiate this significant meal, his last supper with his disciples for them to remember for their remainder of their lives.

Jesus Demonstrates His Foreknowledge Through:

1. Preparations for Passover

2. Identifying Betrayal

17 When it was evening, he came with the twelve. 18 And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me." 19 They began to be **distressed** and to say to him one after another, "Surely, not I?" 20 He said to them, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. 21 For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

- What is interesting here is that Mark spends more time explaining Jesus' betrayal than to any other part of the meal.
- Now keep in mind that table fellowship had a greater significance for Jews than a social gathering.

- Eating together was evidence of peace, trust, and forgiveness, and brotherhood.
- To betray the one who has given you his bread was an appalling act.
- So after everyone had taken their places, Jesus announces that one of them will betray him.
- I like what Larry Hurtado says in his commentary, "The dramatic irony is full. Here is Jesus eating with his circle of close followers, making secret arrangements to avoid detection, yet knowing that it is all in vain and that the very ones with whom he is sharing such intimate company include a traitor and deserters who will fall away when the test comes."
- Here we see Jesus' foreknowledge at its finest as he calls out that there is a betrayer in their midst.
- For some reason Mark, unlike Matthew's account, does not identify the betrayer as Judas.
- In v. 19, the word here for distressed implies that the disciples were filled with grief or saddened at the news.
- This announcement then begins a self-inspection, where each person around Jesus says, "Surely not I"
- Notice that the institution of the Lord supper had not occurred yet.
- Jesus asks this question because he wants everyone to question their own loyalties to himself.
- This is why it is important for us that when we partake in the Lord's Supper, we take time for personal self-examination.
- We must ask questions like this on a regular basis especially before communion: Where does my devotion and loyalty fall for Jesus? What areas do I need to repent before Jesus.
- I believe the way Jesus framed these statements, he was giving Judas one more chance to repent, but when there was no response from him, he calls him out by saying, "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl as me."
- Then everyone looks at Judas, and Jesus says, "woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."
- Jesus in his full divinity, foreknew who the betrayer was, and gives him an opportunity to change his mind, and condemns him by saying, "It would have been better for that one not to have been born"

Jesus Demonstrates His Foreknowledge Through:

1. Preparations for Passover

2. Identifying Betrayal

3. Redefining Ritual

22 While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." 23 Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. 24 He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. 25 Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." 26 When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

- Notice there is no mention of any parts of the Seder supper or when these words in the ritual occurred.
- There is no lamb mentioned being eaten.
- We only find Jesus who is in charge of the celebration.
- Jesus took the bread, lifted it up, and said, "Praise be Thou, O Lord our God, King of the Universe, who causes bread to come forth from the earth."
- After an "Amen" response, the bread was broken and distributed in silence from hand to hand around the table.
- These words that were spoken were so familiar to Jews because they have learned it from when they were children.
- However, during the silence, Jesus shatters the Passover custom with the radical words, "Take; this is my body."
- Jesus is saying to all those present in deep shocking silence, "This is myself"
- When you see the usage of the word "body" encompasses the whole person, not just the physical part of oneself.
- The broken and distributed bread given to the disciples symbolizes what will happen to Jesus.
- Jesus' passion will soon benefit them and is an acted out parable of his offering his life for the many.
- What is significant here is that Jesus uses an article of food so simple and so universal that the disciples can never again recline at a meal, take bread, bless it, and break it without thinking of the last night they were together with their Lord.
- In the same way our memories of a loved one are triggered by something that reminds us of them, these disciples can never eat another meal without thinking about what Jesus did for them on the cross.
- ALSO Jesus took the cup in the same manner, radically saying, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many"
- The redness of the wine represented Jesus' atoning blood.
- Jesus blood was the blood of the new covenant.
- The old covenant of the Law at Sinai was remembered in ceremony by the shedding of sacrificial blood.
- Jesus' blood became the sacrificial lamb that sealed the new covenant where humanity would be saved by resting their faith in his atoning blood.
- The cup is meant to declare loudly to us who believe that we are redeemed as those who partake and share fellowship in the blood of Christ.
- Jesus shed his blood for our sins.
- No longer do sacrificial lambs have to be killed for the forgiveness of sins, but Jesus paid the price with his now life and blood as seen in the bread and the wine.
- In the upper room, Jesus redefined the Passover with a foreshadow of his death through to participation of the bread and wine.

Jesus Demonstrates His Foreknowledge Through:

- 1. Preparations for Passover**
- 2. Identifying Betrayal**
- 3. Redefining Ritual**
- 4. Scattered Sheep**

27 And Jesus said to them, "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' 28 But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee." 29 Peter said to him, "Even though all become deserters, I will not." 30 Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." 31 But he said vehemently, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And all of them said the same.

- After Jesus emphasizes his death through the bread and wine, they sing a hymn which was probably a Psalm, they go to mount Olives.
- The disciples must have spent considerable time teaching and praying at this location because it was probably the only place Judas could inform the religious leaders to find Jesus for his arrest.
- Jesus begins this section with a prediction that all of the disciples will fall away because of him.
- The word for "fall away" means to take offense at someone or something.
- This means that all the disciples will not lose their faith in Jesus, but their courage will fail and take offense at Jesus' suffering and death and "fall away" denying association with Jesus.
- As a basis for his words, Jesus quotes from Zechariah 13:7 in the part that says, "I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered."
- Mark, then singles out Peter with his infamous remarks of how he will die for Jesus but never deny Jesus.
- Jesus again demonstrating is foreknowledge states, "before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."
- But the disciple could not handle Jesus foreknowledge, and they all "vehemently" denies their denial.

Jesus Demonstrates His Foreknowledge Through:

1. Preparations for Passover
2. Identifying Betrayal
3. Redefining Ritual
4. Scattered Sheep

- What seems like the inevitable happening to Jesus, Mark show us over and over again, that God is in control, and this is apart of God's plan.
- In the same way, when our lives seem to be falling apart, God is with us, divinely directing our path every step of the way.

***Hymn** PH 404 "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Precious Lord, take my hand,
 Lead me on, help me stand;
 I'm tired, I'm weak, I'm worn;
 Through the storm, through the
 night,
 Lead me on to the light;
 Take my hand, precious Lord, lead
 me home.

When my way grows drear,
 Precious Lord, linger near;
 When my life is almost gone
 Hear my cry, hear my call,
 Hold my hand lest I fall;
 Take my hand, precious Lord, lead
 me home.

Offering

You know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for our sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty we might become rich. Sisters and brothers, let us give generously of our goods and our lives in imitation of our Lord and Savior.

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessing flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise him above the heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

***Prayer of Dedication**

Most holy God, who hears our prayers and answers them and gives us more than we can ask or imagine, accept these offerings and use them to your glory, that even now we might imitate your coming reign of justice, peace, and love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith** (Apostle's Creed)

Minister:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, what do you believe?

All:

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Almighty God, you created the world for good; give to all leaders and people the wisdom to live in harmony with one another for the health of all creation.

You call your church to abound in generosity; inspire us to share our abundance with our sister churches who are in need, that together we may be a sign of unity in Christ.

Your touch has the power to make us whole; restore all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, and strengthen us as we extend our arms in love as witnesses to your healing.

Steadfast God, you call us to dwell with you forever. We remember those who are dying and those who have died; may they know the joy of your eternal presence, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and now, with confidence as children of God, let us pray:

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

***Hymn** PH 554 "Let All Things Now Living"

1 Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
By guiding us on to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
Till shadows have vanished all fearfulness banished
As forward we travel from light into light.

2 By law God enforces, the stars in their courses
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, Hosanna and praise!" Amen.

***Benediction**

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give
you peace both now and evermore.

***Organ Postlude** (please be seated for the postlude)