

Presbyterian Church of Henderson
Worship Service 10:00 AM
April 10, 2022
Experiencing Lent Series - Palm Sunday

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

- Today we are collecting a special offering for the Presbyterian Mission Agency's One Great Hour of Sharing. (See Insert)
- RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE The Red Cross will be having a blood drive in the gym on Monday, April 11th from 1:00 to 6:00 pm.
- MAUNDY THURSDAY We will be having a Maundy Thursday Soup Service and Supper on Thursday, April 14th at 6:00 pm. Please join us!
- CHANCEL CHOIR The Chancel Choir will meet this Thursday, April 14th at 7:15 pm.
- MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION LENTEN SERVICES AND LUNCHEON The Lenten service and luncheon will be at Holy Name Catholic Church on Friday, April 15th at noon.
- FILLING EGGS FOR EASTER EGG HUNT If you are able to volunteer to help fill the eggs, we will be meeting on Good Friday, April 15th at 1:30 pm. Please contact Cynthia if you would like to help.
- SUNRISE SERVICE The Ministerial Association Easter Sunrise service will be at the Methodist Hospital Garden/Chapel on Sunday, April 17th at 6:30 am.
- EASTER SERVICE Invite your family and friends to join us for Easter Service! EASTER EGG HUNT FOR CHILDREN after Easter Service. Bring your baskets if you have them, but we will have some for you here.
- VOLUNTEERS NEEDED We need help with the nursery and children's church on Sunday mornings. If you would like to volunteer to serve in these areas, please contact the church office or Cynthia.
- ZOOM STUDY Everyone is welcome to join our last Experiencing Lent lesson on Monday at 7:00 pm. Meeting ID: 984 3627 7403, Passcode: 500727
- THESE DAYS DEVOTIONALS The new These Days devotionals for April, May and June are available now and can be picked up in the back of the sanctuary.
- CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY OUTREACH The requested need for April is DEODORANT.

Call to Worship Donna Freitag

They brought the colt of a donkey to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it.

As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road.

As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying,

"Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!"

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered them:

"I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Prayer Donna Freitag

We praise you, O God, for your redemption of the world through Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed Messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Let these branches be signs of his victory, and grant that we who carry them may follow him in the way of the cross, that, dying and rising with him, we may enter into your kingdom; through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

***Hymn** PH 88 "All Glory, Laud, and Honor"

Refrain:

All glory, laud and honor
To Thee, Redeemer, King!
To whom the lips of children
Made sweet hosannas ring.

1 Thou art the King of Israel,
Thou David's royal Son,
Who in the Lord's name comest,
The King and blessed One. (Refrain)

2 The people of the Hebrews
With palms before Thee went;
Our praise and prayers and anthems
Before Thee we present. [Refrain]

3 To Thee, before Thy passion,
They sang their hymns of praise;
To Thee, now high exalted,
Our melody we raise. (Refrain)

4 Thou didst accept their praises;
Accept the prayers we bring,
Who in all good delightest,
Thou good and gracious King! [Refrain]

***Call to Confession**

Let us confess our sin to our God, trusting that God's steadfast love endures forever.

***Prayer of Confession** (unison)

God of heaven and earth, we give you thanks for sending us Jesus Christ in your name. Even though we profess to follow him, we confess that in times of trial we too often deny him. Forgive us and heal us, we pray. Help us to put our faith not in the princes of this world, but only in the Prince of Peace. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

It is the Lord who helps us; who will declare us guilty? Because of the grace we received in baptism, we have nothing to fear. Forgiven and freed, let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

***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.

Please turn and bow to someone out of respect and love— "The peace of Christ be with you"

Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, quiet within us all mortal voices, that through the story of the passion and by the power of your Holy Spirit, we may have the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

First Reading Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever
Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the LORD'S doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD. We bless you from the house of the LORD. The LORD is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.
O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

Anthem "Hosanna, Hosanna! Beale

Second Reading Luke 19:28-40

After he had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" They said, "The Lord needs it." Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

Children's Sermon Walt Dickinson

SERMON "Experiencing Lent: Bible Reading"

Selected Scriptures

April 10, 2022

- The other day, I asked a member of our congregation who was trying to assemble a TV mount, if they enjoyed putting together new items....that means laying out all the items, and determining which piece would fit into what and what tools to use. When all else fails, read the directions.
- I told him the hardest item I ever had assemble was a new BBQ.
- Within the box there must be hundreds of pieces, and a half inch manual to assemble your new BBQ.
- It is a BBQ, why should it assembly be so difficult?
- The hardest part is when the manual tells you to put screw J through hole Y, with washer S and lock washer P, with the lower bottom bracket C into nut W.
- Does anyone know what I am talking about?
- You have an assembly manual, but it does not make sense.
- What makes assembly more difficult is when the instruction manual was crudely translated from another language.
- It almost seems like there needs to be an assembly companion to the instruction manual like a commentary.
- In the same way, many of us view the Bible like complicated assembly manual for life.
- You only read it when you cannot figure out life on its own.
- The problem with the BBQ assembly is that many of us are reading it for the first time.
- When you read things the first time, it does not make sense.
- It is difficult to understand.
- But in the same way you would read a BBQ assembly manual over and over again so that you have the understanding on how to put your BBQ together, the Bible often needs to be looked at with more frequency and regularity.

- It needs to be read over and over again so that you can begin to understand the originally intent of the author, grasp the culture, see the difficulties in translating an ancient text to a modern context.
- ILL: Eat Chinese food, and a couple hours later people say you're hungry again. Eat Italian, people say, five or six days later you're hungry again. But feast on the Word of God and you'll find satisfaction for your soul that will stay with you for eternity. But you cannot give up on your first time through because you think it is too difficult.
- Listen to how the word of God describes itself:
- *Psalm 1:1-3 Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.*
- If you take the time, the Bible is worth your time and effort.

Bible Reading

1. Helps Us Know God

Luke 10:41-42 But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

- The story of Jesus visiting the home of Martha and Mary. Mary sat at the feet of Jesus and listened to what he was saying.
- While Martha was distracted by her many tasks.
- In fact she was so busy that she cried out to Jesus to tell Mary to help her.
- Jesus response, "there is need of only one thing"
- The "one thing" that Jesus was teaching A-type personality Martha was to take the time to sit at the feet of Jesus.
- Martha was distracted and Mary was focused upon Jesus.
- Friends in the busy-ness of our lives, we are missing the "one thing."
- The one thing is to sit at the feet of Jesus and learn from him.
- *Psalm 27:4 One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.*
- Here we see the psalmist, David, wanting the "one thing" in his life: to be in the presence of the Lord.
- Q: Do we have that same priority in our lives?
- Today, we do this by sitting still and reading the Word of God.
- The Bible is the Word of God.
- The Bible reveals God.
- When we read God's Word to us, we get to know God...his character, his nature, his righteousness and his plan for redeeming the world.
- *Rom 10:17 So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.*
- The problem within the church today is that we are Biblically illiterate.
- Because we are not willing to understand the Bible, we dismiss our life's instruction manual and try to navigate on our own.

- ILL: One day, Joe, Bob and Dave were hiking in a wilderness area when they came upon a large, raging, violent river. They needed to get to the other side, but had no idea of how to do so.
 - Joe prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength to cross this river."
 - Poof! God gave him big arms and strong legs, and he was able to swim across the river in about two hours, although he almost drowned a couple of times.
 - Seeing this, Dave prayed to God, saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools to cross this river."
 - Poof! God gave him a rowboat and he was able to row across the river in about an hour, after almost capsizing the boat a couple of times.
 - Bob had seen how this worked out for the other two, so he also prayed to God saying, "Please God, give me the strength and the tools, and the intelligence, to cross this river."
 - Poof! God turned him into a woman. She looked at the map, hiked upstream a couple of hundred yards, then walked across the bridge.
- The Bible is the map with detailed instructions for our lives.
- How foolish we are, when we ignore its directions.

1. Helps us know God

2. Teaches Us How to Live

2 Tim 3:16 All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness

- The word for "inspired by God" has two components.
- First half means "God," and the other half means "breath."
- It is often translated, "God breathed."
- This is saying that Scripture is breathed out by God serving as an extension of God Himself.
- This is what our text means when it says that the Word of God is "inspired" it is God breathed.
- All Scripture does not only come from God, but useful for us humans to become equipped for every good work.
- The Word of God is good for teaching, reproof, correction and training in what? RIGHTEOUSNESS.
- God's laws, as given in the Bible, both describe His own character and constitute the plumb line by which He measures human righteousness.
- The Word of God shapes how we live as we work toward being not like the wickedness in the world, but chosen and called out by God to promote His character of righteousness in the world.
- *Matthew 4:4 But he answered, 'It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"*
- The Word of God becomes more than our sustenance, but the rule of our lives.
- *Psalms 119:105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*
- EX: There is a company called, Despair. On their website, it says, "No industry has inflicted more suffering than the Motivational Industry. Motivational books, speakers and posters have made billions of dollars selling shortcuts to success and tools for unleashing our unlimited potential.

At Despair, we know such products only raise hopes to dash them. That's why our products go straight to the dashing. Enjoy!" Examples of their sayings:

- ATTITUDE: If you can't handle me at my worst, you deserve to know it's also my best.
- FRUSTRATION: When all else fails, look to the healing power of brute force.
- DESPAIR: It always gets darker just before it fades to pitch black.
- Thank God that the Bible is lamp unto our feet.
- The Word of God guides us through often the darkest, loneliness, most difficult times of our lives.
- In the same way we need light to live, the Word of God is the light that illumines our direction and points us toward the way God calls us to live.

1. Helps us know God

2. Teaches Us How to Live

3. Guides Us in Obedience

Psalm 119:9-12 How can young people keep their way pure? By guarding it according to your word. With my whole heart I seek you; do not let me stray from your commandments. I treasure your word in my heart, so that I may not sin against you. Blessed are you, O LORD; teach me your statutes.

- This verse tells us that the Word of God shapes the life of a young person toward righteousness, but the writer is saying that if it is good enough for them, it is good enough for me as well.
- Notice the writer says, "With my whole heart I seek you, do not let me stray from your commandments."
- This is a person who desires to align their life with God who gives direction for his own life.
- The best part of this text: "I treasure your Word in my heart so that I may not sin against you."
- Notice that it is in the first person.
- This is a first hand account about how the Word of God guides him in obedience to the righteousness of God.
- *Proverbs 2:6-7* For the LORD gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding; he stores up sound wisdom for the upright; he is a shield to those who walk blamelessly
- This text draws the idea of how the Word of God guides our path, but also it takes it a little further that it become the **shield** to those who walk according to the way found in Scripture.
- What is it shielding?
- It is shielding the believer from the sin and temptations of the world.
- Remember when God chose Abram, he chose a man, and a promised nation to be his people that God planned to bless.
- Why would God call out a man, that eventually became a nation?
- Because the God who is righteous wanted to a people to live the same way.
- He wanted to see a people escape the corruption and sin and to live more like the nature of God himself who is righteous.
- This is why you see that the Word of God is able to give us the protection we need from the corruption of the world.

- *Ephesians 6:16-17 With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.*

1. Helps us know God
2. Teaches Us How to Live
3. Guides Us in Obedience

4. Helps Us Know Jesus

- When we read the Bible, we learn about Jesus.
 - *John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.*
 - *1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human*
- Through Jesus, the Bible tell us that we can have a relationship with God the father.
 - *John 3:16 For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.*
- When Jesus prayed in John 17:3, he prayed that eternal life is knowing the one true God and the Son whom he sent.
- *1 John 5:20* *And we know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding so that we may know him who is true; and we are in him who is true, in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life.*
- We know God through His Son Jesus Christ.

1. Helps us know God
2. Teaches Us How to Live
3. Guides Us in Obedience
4. Helps us Know Jesus

5. Gives Us Encouragement

Rom 15:4-5 For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus

- When we read the Bible, we can find three things: steadfastness (endurance), encouragement and hope.
- The people of God have turned to the Word of God for encouragement for centuries.
- *Psalms 121:1-8* *I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber. He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.*
- Isn't that a beautiful Psalm?
- This psalm shows that we are in God's best interests and that we are important to God.

- When we read the Word of God, the Bible says that God will also make our way prosper.
- *Joshua 1:8 This book of the law shall not depart out of your mouth; you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to act in accordance with all that is written in it. For then you shall make your way prosperous, and then you shall be successful.*
- God not only has our best interests, but he wants us to succeed in following His ways.

Bible Reading:

1. Helps us know God
2. Teaches Us How to Live
3. Guides Us in Obedience
4. Helps us Know Jesus
5. Gives Us Encouragement

Lenten Challenge: Read the Bible everyday this week.

HOLY WEEK READING SCHEDULE

- Monday- Luke 19:28-48
- Tuesday- Luke 20
- Wednesday- Luke 21
- Thursday- Luke 22
- Friday- Luke 23
- Saturday- Luke 24

*Hymn PH 92 "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus
 I fain would take my stand,
 The shadow of a mighty rock
 Within a weary land;
 A home within the wilderness,
 A rest upon the way,
 From the burning of the noontide heat,
 And the burden of the day.

2 Upon that cross of Jesus
 Mine eye at times can see
 The very dying form of One
 Who suffered there for me;
 And from my stricken heart with tears
 Two wonders I confess:
 The wonders of redeeming love
 And my unworthiness.

Reception of New Members

Becky Dawson - Reaffirmation of Faith
 Kimberly Thomas - Transfer of Membership

(Call new members forward)

Presentation:

You come to us as members of the one holy catholic church, into which you were baptized, and by which you have been nurtured. We are one with each other, sisters and brothers in the family of God. We rejoice in the gifts you bring to us. As you join with us in the worship and service of this congregation, it is fitting that together we reaffirm the covenant into which we were baptized, claiming again the promises of God which are ours in our baptism.

Here the Word from Scripture—

Eph 4:4-6 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

Profession of Faith:

Sisters and brothers in Christ, our baptism is the sign and seal of our cleansing from sin, and of our being grafted into Christ. Through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Christ, the power of sin was broken and God’s kingdom entered our world. Through our baptism we were made citizens of God’s kingdom, and freed from the bondage of sin. Let us celebrate that freedom and redemption through the renewal of the promises made at our baptism.

I ask you, therefore, once again to reject sin, and to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, and to confess the faith of the church, in which we were baptized.

Renunciations:

Trusting in the gracious mercy of God, do you turn from the ways of sin and renounce evil and its power in the world?

I do.

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Lord and Savior, trusting in his grace and love?

I do.

Will you be Christ’s faithful disciple, obeying his Word and showing his love?

I will, with God’s help.

Profession

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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.

You have publicly professed your faith. Will you be a faithful member of this congregation, share in its worship and ministry through your prayers and gifts, your study and service, and so fulfill your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Let us pray:

Holy God, we praise you for calling us to be a servant people, and for gathering us into the body of Christ. We thank you for choosing to add to our number brothers and sisters in faith. Together, may we live in your Spirit, and so love one another, that we may have the mind of Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom we give honor and glory forever. Amen.

Welcome

Let us welcome Kimberly and Becky as they join with us in worship and mission of our church. (After the service I ask you to stand in the back of the sanctuary with me so that the congregation can greet you as they exit the church)

Offering

God has given us his only Child, Jesus Christ, as the way of our salvation. Let us then give generously, as God has given to us.

***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**

Holy One, we give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation that you have done and continue to do. Bless these offerings of thanksgiving that they may further your kingdom in this world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People

- David Williams oldest brother suddenly died on Tuesday. Please pray for the family during this difficult time of loss.
- Annie Warner who is in the hospital with medical issues

God in the highest, you came to us in a human being who humbled himself like a slave. Hear the prayers of our hearts this morning.

We pray for the nations that worship power and might; may they be ruled by humility and peace.

We pray for the church and its leaders, that we may have the mind of Christ.

We pray for the victims of human tragedies and disasters of nature.

We pray for those in our midst who do not faith in Jesus

We pray for those who are ill or infirmed or are rejected because they are seen to be weak.

God of compassion, through Jesus Christ you have come to us and shared our common lot. Mold us into people who show your mercy and keep us obedient to him whose name is above all other names Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, 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 89 "Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

1 Hosanna, loud hosanna,
The little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple
The joyful anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them
Close folded to His breast,
The children sang their praises,
The simplest and the best.

2 From Olivet they followed
'Mid an exultant crowd,
The victor palm branch waving,
And chanting clear and loud;
The Lord of earth and heaven
Ride on in lowly state,
Nor scorned that little children
Should on His bidding wait.

3 "Hosanna in the highest!"
That ancient song we sing,
For Christ is our Redeemer,
The Lord of heaven our King.
O may we ever praise Him
With heart and life and voice,
And in His blissful presence
Eternally rejoice.

***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)