

“The Parables of Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes”

Pastor Dan’s Brown Bag Bible Study Is Back!

On Thursdays at 12:30 beginning September 28th, hear the parables of Jesus as his disciples, the crowds and the religious authorities heard them. Step back in time and see Jesus through 1st century Middle Eastern eyes. Discover amazing new insights and perspectives on some of history’s most famous stories!

Pastor Dan is offering this 10-week course beginning September 28th. The format is casual lecture and discussion. There are no books to buy, and the only assignments are to read and contemplate the assigned parable before each class. Bring your lunch and we will break bread and learn together.

Because each week tackles a different parable, missing one or two weeks will not put you behind for the next class or, pick your favorite parables and attend then. A sign-up sheet is on the glass table in the back of the sanctuary.

- ❑ 9/28 The Parable of the Good Samaritan – Luke 10: 25-37
- ❑ 10/5 The Parable of the Rich Fool – Luke 12: 13-21
- ❑ 10/12 The Parable of the Great Banquet – Luke 14: 15-24
- ❑ 10/19 The Parable of the Unjust Steward – Luke 16: 1-8
- ❑ 10/26 The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector – Luke 18: 9-14
- ❑ 11/2 The Parable of the Compassionate Employer – Matthew 20: 1-6
- ❑ 11/9 The Parable of the Serving Master – Luke 12: 35-38
- ❑ 11/16 The Parable of Lazarus and the Rich Man – Luke 16: 19-30
- ❑ 11/23 The Parable of the Pounds – Luke 19: 11-27
- ❑ 11/30 The Parable of the Noble Vineyard Owner and His Son– Luke 20: 9-18

Sunday, October 22nd, 2023
Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time



**FIRST
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH OF OCEAN CITY**

**First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Rev. Dan McKenty - Pastor**

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**Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Friday**

Liturgy for Sunday, October 22, 2023

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: “O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.” Psalm 96: 1,2

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (responsive)

Elder Marty Cropper

The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.

Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!

Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was among those who called on his name. They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.

He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud; they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.

O LORD our God, you answered them; you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the LORD our God is holy. Amen.

Prelude

Choral Introit: “Without Him”

* Hymn “Open My Eyes, That I May See” # 381

* Passing the Peace

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Prayer of Confession (unison)

What a debt we owe to you, O God.

You have given us all things in Christ

and yet we withhold from you

the honor and glory that are yours.

Instead, we pay tribute to empire,

Current Prayer Concerns:

Thomas Simpson, James Coughlin, Shirley Warren, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Dixie Porter, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Christina Moore, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Joyce & Jack Vavrek, Bob Lebo, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Marie McCallister, Betty Ignash, Tom Taylor, Lake Scott, Bryan Wayne-Records, Debbie Kelly, and Algernon John-Baptiste, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Margie BaugherCramer, Harvey Smith, Kendal Snyder, Carolyn Fitzgerald, and Mark Payne.

Those homebound or undergoing treatment:

John Snyder and Marie McCallister (Marty Cropper’s sister)

Berlin Nursing Home: For all those who we were unable to visit or sing with during this time of virus.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Oct 29 Peggy Webster & Mary Snyder

Nov 5 Family Thanksgiving Dinner

Nov 12 Jackie Bates & Dawn Butler

Nov 19 Lisa Bayles & Beth Fisher

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Tues	Oct	24	Mobile Showers	1:30 PM
Wed	Oct	25	Food Pantry (<i>volunteers needed</i>)	9:30 AM
Wed	Oct	25	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Fri	Oct	27	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays *Wayne Tucker (10/24) Bob Lebo (10/27)*

Flowers: ~ Flowers in the chancel vases are given:

~ By Rich and Nancy Wright in memory of Nancy's Father, **Woodrow Bischler** as he celebrates his birthday October 23rd with our Lord and Savior.

~ In honor of our grandson, **Zach**, who celebrates his 5th birthday today. Zach fills a space in our hearts we never knew was empty. - *Rob and Ann Eicher*

October 29th..both chancel vases open for dedications

**** Flower Price Adjustment beginning January 2024****
Chancel Vase from \$22 to \$25
Flower Basket from \$ 30 to \$35

Rummage Sale

Our next Rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, October 28th** from 8AM - 1PM.

The shed will be unlocked until Sunday, October 22nd after Church. Please don't put summer clothes in the shed at this time.

Please consider volunteering, especially at setup time (7:00 AM) or at close-up time (1:00 PM). This will be the last rummage of the year.

plot to entrap the innocent,
mock your truth with empty praise,
and put your patience to the test.
Forgive us, O God, and by your grace
restore in us the image of your face;
through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice!

**Let the sea roar with laughter, the fields shout in celebration,
and the forests sing with joy: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!**

*** Gloria Patri** (unison)

**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.**

Invitation to the Offering

Jesus invites us to render to God the things that are God's.
Trusting in God's infinite care, we gratefully present our
offerings.

*** Doxology** (unison)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him all
creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly Hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

We trust you, Lord God, to multiply the blessings these gifts
represent, as we pour out your love and grace on those who
long to hear your word to them, to see your power at work
within them, to feel your comfort beside them, through the
generous gifts of your Spirit. **Amen.**

Choral Anthem: "Day by Day"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Holy One, true and living God, through the message of the gospel and the power of your Spirit make us imitators of the Lord: Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Thessalonians 1:1-10 [NIV]

Elder Nancy Wright

Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace and peace to you ²We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers. ³We remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. ⁶You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. ⁷And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. ⁸The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, ⁹for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

2nd Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:1-14 [NRSV]

Rev. Dan McKenty

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for paying the

Grace Parker Breakfast

On **Wednesday, November 1st**, we will begin this Season's Grace Parker Breakfast. There will be a change in the closing time: Breakfast will run from **7AM - 11AM**.

Setup will be Tuesday, October 31st at 10AM.

Cost will remain the same as last season:

Dine-In \$12.00

Take-Out \$10.00

Spread the word to your friends and neighbors and consider lending a hand for this beloved community event. Many hands make light work.

FOOD PANTRY

Our Food Pantry is being utilized by many this fall and winter. If you are able, please consider picking up some of the below items to help us restock:

Soap

Tuna Cans

Toothbrushes & Toothpaste

Fruit Snacks

Fruit & Granola Bars

Fruit Cups

Deodorant

Disposable razors and shaving cream

Thank you for your compassion and generosity!

Congregation Financials as of September 30, 2023:

Year-to-date **giving/income** (\$112,706.02 from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): **\$172,009.48**

Year-to-date **disbursements** (includes \$20,000 for replacement windows at the Manse): **\$188,848.38**

**Moment for Mission:
Deacons' Choice for this Season's
Presbyterian Giving**



Community Garden \$200



Fishing Kit \$75



Sewing Machines \$50



Latrine \$350

tax." They brought him a denarius,²⁰ and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"²¹ "Caesar's," they replied. Then he said to them, "So give back to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."²² When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

*** Hymn "Where He Leads Me" # 373**

Hymn Sing

***Affirmation of Faith (unison)**

We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

Heavenly Father, we come to you now praying prayers for our brothers and sisters and for all your people throughout your great creation. We come to you in faith knowing your blessings are endless, and your mercy is great.

We lift up those struggling with hunger and homelessness. As the days grow colder, let us not neglect our brothers and sisters in need. **Lord your blessings are endless. Your mercy is great.**

We lift up those who are unemployed and in need of assistance to feed their children. Let us give of what we have to ease their suffering. **Lord your blessings are endless. Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who have sinned against us. Let us learn your lessons of forgiveness and reconciliation. **Lord your blessings are endless. Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those struggling with sickness, depression, addiction, and all other maladies. **Lord your blessings are endless. Your mercy is great.** And we pray for

We pray for your earth that we may come to our senses and begin to heal that which we have been given and that which we have abused. **Lord your blessings are endless. Your mercy is great.**

Father God, through you all things are possible and so we pray to you in confidence using the words taught to us by your Son, our Lord and Savior: **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 "Abide with Me" # 419 verses 1,3 & 5

Charge

Benediction

Postlude and Response "Two-Fold Amen"

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee requests assistance in identifying new candidates, from the church membership, to serve as Deacons and Elders . If you (a church member), choose to nominate yourself or some other member to serve, please contact one of the following nominating committee members: **Lisa Bayles, Cliff and Sarah Dypsky, Ann Hales, Pete Hanes, and Nancy and Rich Wright.** A list of the current church officers is on the table at the rear of the sanctuary.

It is Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Time!

The shoeboxes, labels, and instruction on how to pack a shoebox gift are all on the round table in the rear of the church sanctuary. National Collection Week is November 13-20th. Please have shoeboxes back to the church by Sunday, November 19th.



Thank you for participating in this mission to bring a spark of joy to vulnerable kids around our world.