

“The Parables of Jesus Through Middle Eastern Eyes”

Pastor Dan’s Brown Bag Bible Study Is Back!

On Thursdays at 12:30, 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 1st, 2023
Twenty-Sixth in Ordinary Time



First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Rev. Dave McNeilly

“Remembering the Delight of Lamb”

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

Liturgy for Sunday, October 1st, 2023 Twenty-Sixth in Ordinary Time

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "When Jesus wanted to explain to his disciples what his death was all about, he didn't give them a theory, he gave them a meal." ~ N. T. Wright

Ringing of the Church Bell Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: (responsive)

Elder Marty Cropper

The light of the Gospel shines before us in the presence of Jesus,

our Lord and Saviour!

O Lord, our God, help us to bring the light to our lives!

The compassion Jesus proclaimed to be your will is so very for life, but so very challenging for us to live.

O Lord, our God, help us to bring the healing touch of compassion to our worship, our homes and wherever we might find ourselves

The joy of communing and trusting, being in relationships, praising in gratitude, giving to and praying for - is a joy available to all of us

O Lord, our God, help us to be unafraid to celebrate and share what is so very good for us!

Let us worship God!

Prelude

Choral Introit: "Where Could I Go?"

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

Passing the Peace

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Current Prayer Concerns:

Thomas Simpson, James Coughlin, Shirley Warren, Chris Hazard, Shane Warren, 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 Baugher Cramer, Harvey Smith, and Kendal Snyder.

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 8	Karen Eberly & Mary Snyder
Oct 15	Jan Owens & Sue Latour
Oct 22	Ann Hales & Sarah Dypsky
Oct 29	Peggy Webster & Marty Cropper

Book Club:

On Tuesday, November 17th, after the WOW Meeting (~ 1PM), the Book Club will be discussing "Have You Seen Luis Velez?"

New York Times bestselling author Catherine Ryan Hyde brings heartwarming authenticity to the story of two strangers who find that kindness is a powerful antidote to fear.

Raymond Jaffe feels like he doesn't belong. Not with his mother's new family. Not as a weekend guest with his father and his father's wife. Not at school, where he's an outcast. After his best friend moves away, Raymond has only two real connections: to the feral cat he's tamed and to a blind ninety-two-year-old woman in his building who's introduced herself with a curious question: Have you seen Luis Velez?



Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Tues	Oct	3	Mobile Showers <i>(note new time)</i>	1:30 PM
Wed	Oct	4	Food Pantry <i>(volunteers needed)</i>	9:00 AM
Wed	Oct	4	Choir Practice	6:00 PM
Fri	Oct	6	Narcotics Anonymous	7:00 PM

Birthdays: Barbara Kipila (10/4)

Flowers: ~ Flowers in the chancel vase are given:
~ To the Glory of God and in memory of our father Andrew Kipila as he celebrates his heavenly birthday on October 10, and in honor of Barbara on the celebration of her birthday on October 4. ~ Betsy and Barbara Kipila

October 8th....1 chancel vase open for dedication
October 15th...both chancel vases open for dedications
October 22nd..1 chancel vase open for dedication
October 29th..both chancel vases open for dedications

Rummage Sale

Our next Rummage Sale will be held on **Saturday, October 28th** from 7AM - 1PM. See Jan Owens for questions.
Please consider volunteering, especially at setup time (6:00 AM) or at close-up time (12:30 - 1:00 PM)

Cindy Kohlmann to Preach - October 15th

On **Sunday, October 15th**, we will be honored to have Rev. Cindy Kohlmann worship and preach with us during our regular Lord's Day Worship Service. Cindy is the Connectional Presbyter & Stated Clerk for the New Castle Presbytery. Please mark your calendar and perhaps invite a friend or neighbor!



Prayer of Confession (unison)

Humbled by our Failures, O Lord, we approach you this day as people in need of grace. Challenged by a Gospel that is divine, we too often find ourselves mired in the ways of this world. We just take, instead of being grateful for our gifts freely given. We hold onto, when we already have more than we need. We look for more, when the needs of others around us are so great. We are suspicious, when the beauty of diversity and the blessings of the future could add such hope to our lives.

Forgive us Lord. Help us to grow beyond our sin. Strengthen us to move beyond the limits of self into the eternal glory of Christ's powerful compassion.

Hear now our silent Prayer of confession ...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Hear the Good News from Hebrews Chapter 4:

"Let us draw near the throne if grace, for there we find mercy and receive grace that will help us in our times of need."

We praise God for the gift of grace

we remember to practice the Grace of God in our daily lives.

* 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

* 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

Choral Anthem: "Lord, I'm Coming Home"

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious God,
your Word surprises, challenges, upsets, and overturns our way of seeing and thinking. Come and find us today wherever we are, however we are. By the power of your Holy Spirit, cause that which is withering in us to blossom and that which is exacting in us to broaden until we see as you see, and thereby glimpse the kingdom you are bringing. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading: Psalm 1 [NRSV]

Mabel Rogers

¹ 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,
² but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.
³ 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.
⁴ The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
⁵ Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,
⁶ for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Time with Children & Youth

Rev. Dave McNeilly

*Affirmation of Faith (unison)

We believe this is the good news which we have received, in which we stand, and by which we are saved if we hold it fast: that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day, and that he

Household Prayer: Morning

Dear God,
thank you for this day.
Help me hear others as I know that you always hear me.
Open my heart and help me give myself with grateful
praise
to things you have set for me today.
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Dear God,
thank you for always being with me.
Rest now in me, God, so that I will wake in the morning
with praise and thanksgiving on my lips.
In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

FOOD PANTRY

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

Rice in small packages
Tuna Cans
Beef / Chicken Ramen Noodles
Cheese & Peanut Butter Crackers
Toothbrushes & Toothpaste
Fruit Snacks
Fruit & Granola Bars
Fruit Cups

Thank you for your compassion and generosity!

MISSION UPDATE

The Khata scarf on the altar today was presented to the Women of Worship by Keith LaBrunda and his partner Heather Montalbano as a thank you for helping to subsidize their mission



trip to India. Through WOW and other members of the church, the group was able to purchase a washing machine and sporting equipment for a large group of children.

The Nepalese Khata Scarf: A Symbol of Honor and Respect

The Khata scarf is a traditional ceremonial scarf in Nepalese culture that holds significant meaning. Made from silk or cotton, the scarf is usually white and may be embroidered with symbols of mantras, often in vibrant colors. The Khata is a versatile accessory serving both spiritual and cultural purposes.

In Nepal, the Khata scarf is often presented to guests, dignitaries, or individuals as a sign of respect, honor and goodwill. The act of giving a Khata is deeply symbolic and is akin to offering one's pure intentions and well wishes. The scarf is usually presented at the beginning or end of a special ceremony, event, or meeting to signify the importance of the occasion and the respect for the individuals involved.

The Khata scarf is more than just a piece of fabric; it is a meaningful emblem of Nepalese hospitality, a tangible expression of honor, and a cherished keepsake that

appeared first to the women, then to Peter, and to the Twelve, and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God. Jesus Christ is the first and the last, the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end; he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

Sacrament of Communion

Scripture Lesson: Matthew 5: 1-16 [NRSV]

Rev. Dave McNeilly

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ² And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

³ "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴ "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵ "Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶ "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷ "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸ "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹ "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰ "Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ "Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you. ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

Meditation: "Remembering the Delight of Lamb"

* Hymn: "Jesus Calls Us" # 375

Invitation to the Table

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

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Lord help us. **We trust in you.**

God of mercy and healing, you are Lord of all, embracing the estranged, blessing the banished, reconciling the rejected. We cry out to you now, confident that your provision is abundantly more than enough to preserve the church, redeem the world, and deliver the tormented. Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For your people, the house of Israel, and the household of faith near and far, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

That the church may replicate your reconciliation, model your mercy, and herald your healing for all, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For unity and harmony to flow freely among your creatures and throughout your creation, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For reconciliation and new beginnings among estranged families, races, nations, and peoples, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For healing for those who are tormented, rejected, marginalized, fearful, forgotten, cast off, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

For those whose names we now lift in your presence, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.** And we pray for

For our ancestors in the faith, now kept in your care and never forgotten by you, Lord, help us. **We trust in you.**

We stand in your circle of favor, embraced by you, healed by you, blessed by you, remembered by you, secured by you, grateful for your loving care and so we pray the prayer you taught us to pray and we say, **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 "Living for Jesus" # 372

Charge

Benediction

Postlude and Response "Three-Fold Amen"

