

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH:

Pastor - Rev. Paul Krentz

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4TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

JANUARY 30, 2011

WELCOME to all who are visiting today! Our greatest desire is to share that wonderful message of forgiveness and eternal salvation for all in Jesus' name. We pray you will be drawn closer to Christ as the Holy Spirit nurtures us through God's Word in this service. Before you leave, please, take time to sign our guest register in the entrance way, and we hope you will join us every week as we gather as God's family in worship.

8:00am
WELCOME

HYMN: #133 "Within the Father's House"

INVOCATION:

P. In the name of God, the Creator, Christ, the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit, the Comforter.

C. LORD, WE ARE BLESSED BY YOUR PRESENCE AMONG US, AND WE LOOK TO YOU FOR HELP AND STRENGTH.

P. We gather as the body of Christ,

C. AND COME IN RESPONSE TO OUR SAVIOR'S CALL. AMEN.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 5:1-12

I Now when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, *2* and he began to teach 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 be shown mercy. *8* Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. *9* Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. *10* Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. *11* "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. *12* Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

CONFESSION OF SINS:

P. We desire the presence of heaven,

C. BUT OUR SPIRITS ARE NOT READY FOR IT.

P. We want to find comfort and healing,

C. BUT WE ARE AFRAID OF THE PAIN WE MUST GO THROUGH.

P. We want the riches of the earth to be our own,

C. BUT WE DON'T KNOW HOW TO HANDLE WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE.

P. We want to be satisfied in every way,

C. BUT WE ARE NOT WILLING TO BE HAPPY WITH THE GIFTS THAT GOD GIVES.

P. We want others to show us mercy,

C. BUT WE FIND IT SO HARD TO BE MERCIFUL.

P. We want to see God,

C. BUT OUR EYES ARE CLOUDED WITH OTHER THINGS THAT HAVE BECOME FOR US MORE IMPORTANT.

P. We want to be part of God's loving family,

C. BUT WE FIND IT HARD TO BE A PEACEMAKER IN A WORLD FILLED WITH HATE.

P. We want to live forever,

C. BUT WE CRUMBLE WHEN OUR FAITH IS TESTED. LORD GOD, YOU KNOW OUR HEARTS. FORGIVE OUR SIN.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE: *(Adapted from Romans 5)*

P. Just at the right time - when we were helpless in our sin,

C. CHRIST DIED FOR US.

P. God shows his love for us in this,

C. WHILE WE WERE STILL SINNERS - CHRIST DIED FOR US.

P. We are made right by Christ's death on the cross and resurrection.

C. IN HIM ALONE OUR SIN IS FORGIVEN AND WE HAVE PEACE WITH GOD THROUGH OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST.

SONG: "People of God"

(1 Peter 2:10 "Once you were not a people, but now you are the people of God; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.")

1. With our lips let us sing one confession, with our hearts hold to one truth alone; For He has erased our transgression, claimed us and called us His own, His very own.

Chorus: We're the people of God, called by His name, called from the dark and delivered from shame; One holy race saints ev'ryone, because of the blood of Christ Jesus, the Son.

2. Hear us, O spirits of darkness, so you will know where we stand; We are His servants purchased with scars, bought by the blood of the Lamb, the blood of the Lamb.

(Repeat chorus twice)

End...because of the blood of Christ Jesus, the Son. (C. 1982 Singspiration Music. Used by permission. CCLI #1561573)

PRAYER

EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 1:26-31

26 Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. 27 But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong. 28 He chose the lowly things of this world and the despised things—and the things that are not—to nullify the things that are, 29 so that no one may boast before him. 30 It is because of him that you are in Christ Jesus, who has become for us wisdom from God—that is, our righteousness, holiness and redemption. 31 Therefore, as it is written: “Let him who boasts boast in the Lord.”

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *(Spoken together)*

I believe in God the Father Almighty; that He made the heavens and the earth. He has made all people for fellowship with Himself and with one another. I believe that He loved each of us so much that He sent His only Son to be born a human, to grow and to teach and to love. But I also know that being human was not enough; He had to suffer and He had to die. So God's Son, for the joy set before Him, endured the pain and death on a cross, for you and for me and for all people. After three days, He rose from the grave, ascended into heaven, and was exalted by His Father to be the Lord and King of all the universe, and will come again visibly at the end of time to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, who gives us faith in Jesus and preserves us in that faith. He gives to us new life and new hope and an everlasting love. I know that all believers in Christ shall rise from the dead and live with the Lord in eternal glory. And I believe that we have more than just a fellowship of people with faith to associate with. We have a message for the world, and that message is Jesus the Christ, in whom alone forgiveness and life with God are found.

HYMN: *"Great is Thy Faithfulness" (Lam 3:23)*

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father! There is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not Thy compassions, they fail not: As Thou hast been, Thou forever shall be.

Chorus: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy hand hath provided Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness, To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

(Chorus)

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *(Chorus)*

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SERMON: Micah 6:1-5 **"Bored with the Lord?"**

(A sermon outline with the Scripture reading is printed in the bulletin to aid your meditation on God's Word)

SONG: *"My God, My God"*

(Ps 40:5 "Many, O LORD my God, are the wonders you have done. The things you planned for us no one can recount to you; were I to speak and tell of them, they would be too many to declare.")

Chorus: My God, my God, how great you are, You are wonderful in deeds; My God, my God,
how great You are, You are wonderful in deeds. For we are Your mighty deeds, changed
in hearts and lives; For we are your mighty deeds, changed in hearts and lives.

Verse: You're Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace;
and You shall reign forevermore. *(Chorus)*

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OFFERING + RITE OF FELLOWSHIP *(Please sign fellowship book at end of pew.)*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

P. Father, You have chosen the foolish things of this world to shame the wise.

C. FROM THE MIDST OF A CROSS - WHAT WE THINK IS FOOLISH, YOU WORK
YOUR SAVING GRACE.

P. Give wisdom and compassion to the rulers of this earth,

C. THAT THEY MAY LEAD PEOPLE TO JUSTICE AND PEACE.

P. Father, You have chosen the weak things of the world to shame the strong.

C. YOU WILLINGLY WORK FOR OUR GOOD IN THE MIDST OF ALL OUR
WEAKNESSES, INCLUDING ILLNESS, INJURY, AND DISABILITY.

P. We earnestly seek healing for those who are laid low by their weakness, especially...

(special prayer requests)...We ask You to place Your healing touch upon them,

C. AND INCREASE THEIR AWARENESS OF YOUR ABIDING PRESENCE.

P. Father, You have chosen what the world thinks is unimportant to serve Your purposes.

C. THROUGH SIMPLE THINGS LIKE WORDS, THE WATER OF BAPTISM, AND THE
BREAD AND WINE OF COMMUNION, YOU REACH INTO OUR HEARTS AND
LIVES. HELP US APPRECIATE AND MAKE USE OF YOUR MEANS OF GRACE.

P. Father, You destroy what the world thinks is important.

C. DESTROY OUR SELF-CENTEREDNESS, OUR PREJUDICES, OUR LOVE OF
VIOLENCE, AND OUR FOCUS ON SUCCESS.

P. Give us the humility to serve others,

C. AS CHRIST HAS SERVED US.

P. Father, You have chosen us as Your people. Use us to Your purpose that we may be
instruments of Your peace,

C. PROCLAIMING YOUR NAME AND SHOWING FORTH YOUR GLORY. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BLESSING

HYMN: #53 "Abide, O Dearest Jesus" vs. 1-4

ANNOUNCEMENTS + POSTLUDE

PRAISE BAND SCHEDULE FOR MONTH OF JANUARY AND FEBRUARY:

January 30th, February 13th and 27th – 10:30 Service

Micah 6:1-5

"Bored with the Lord?"

1 Listen to what the LORD says: "Stand up, plead your case before the mountains; let the hills hear what you have to say. 2 Hear, O mountains, the LORD's accusation; listen, you everlasting foundations of the earth. For the LORD has a case against his people; he is lodging a charge against Israel. 3 "My people, what have I done to you? How have I burdened you? Answer me. 4 I brought you up out of Egypt and redeemed you from the land of slavery. I sent Moses to lead you, also Aaron and Miriam. 5 My people, remember what Balak king of Moab counseled and what Balaam son of Beor answered. Remember your journey from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the righteous acts of the LORD."

1. What is boredom?
2. What events show us that we sometimes get bored with the Lord?
3. Why don't we give much thought to boredom?
4. How does being bored with the Lord break the first commandment?
5. How does being bored in life break the 9th and 10th commandments?
6. Why won't we ever get bored in heaven?
7. How do we usually try to handle boredom?
8. Why don't our solutions to boredom work?
9. How does God seek to deal with boredom in our hearts?
10. Why is it important that we not turn a deaf ear to God's word when dealing with boredom?