



Where are you Going? Discover~ Get~ Set~ Clear~ Push~ Land

January 24, 2021

“SET CRAZY EXPECTATIONS”

9am Order of Worship & Praise

Memorial Lutheran Church (ELCA) 3215 Douglas Road Toledo, Ohio

Gathering in His Place

Welcome & Greeting

PM. May the grace of God, the communion of the Holy Spirit and the love of Christ be with you. **C. And also with you.**

Opening Song “Reckless Love”

*Before I spoke a word, You were singing over me
You have been so, so good to me
Before I took a breath, You breathed Your life in me
You have been so, so kind to me*

*Oh the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'till I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still, You give yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God*

[Instrumental] yeah

*When I was Your foe, still Your love fought for me
You have been so, so good to me
When I felt no worth, You paid it all for me
You have been so, so kind to me*

*And oh the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'till I'm found, leaves the ninety-nine
I couldn't earn it and I don't deserve it Still, You give yourself away
Oh the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God*

[Instrumental]

*There's no shadow You won't light up, mountain You won't climb up, comin' after me
There's no wall You won't kick down, lie You won't tear down, comin' after me
There's no shadow You won't light up, mountain You won't climb up, comin' after me
There's no wall You won't kick down, lie You won't tear down, comin' after me*

*There's no shadow You won't light up, mountain You won't climb up, comin' after me
There's no wall You won't kick down, lie You won't tear down, comin' after me
There's no shadow You won't light up, mountain You won't climb up, comin' after me
There's no wall You won't kick down, lie You won't tear down, comin' after me*

*Oh the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'till I'm found, leaves the ninety nine
I couldn't earn it I don't deserve it Still, You give yourself away
Oh the overwhelming, never ending, reckless love of God*

Litany & Song of Praise (Amy Hoffman—Assistant)

A. Come from east and west, north and south!

C. From everywhere God has placed us, with everything God has given us, as the people God made us—we come.

A. Come, receive again the gift of grace!

C. Not for owning, not for boasting, but for celebrating—we come.

A. Come, discover again the way that leads to life!

C. Remembering who we are, seeking who we are yet to be—we come.

Song of Praise “Lord, Be Glorified”

*In my Life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my Life, Lord, be glorified, today.*

*In my song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In my song, Lord, be glorified, today.*

*In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.
In your church, Lord, be glorified, today.*

*Be glorified today
Be glorified today*

Opening Prayer

A. Heavenly Father, we read in Your Word that, “where there is no vision the people perish – but blessed is the one that heeds instruction.” Father forgive us for seeking after our own limited, human vision rather than seeking after Your godly and eternal vision.

C. Forgive us for seeking to place our trust in our own limited view of what we consider is important in our lives and the world in which we live, rather than seeking after the purer perspective of Your eternal plans, for only when we have come to an understanding of Your purposes for the world, can we in honesty and in humility seek for godly wisdom and a godly vision.

A. Lord we pray, “Thy will be done on earth – Thy kingdom come..” for in so doing we recognize that without the Prince of Peace returning to rule and reign over this world, there will be no rest for humanity and no lasting peace that passes understanding.

C. Teach us to learn Your vision and to pray into Your will, not only in our personal lives and those of our loved ones but help us also to come to a deeper knowledge of Your greater vision for the future of mankind, when the earth shall be filled with the glory of God as the waters cover the sea. Help us to soak our hearts in Your perfect desire for mankind, and to understand Your greater purpose for humanity. Give us the wisdom to pray into Your vision, for only as we align our minds to the mind of Christ and our will to the will of the Father, through the power of the Holy Spirit, will we pray effectively.

A. In Jesus' name, Amen.

[Word is Alive Among Us](#)

Readings (—*Sara Hermiller*)

Philippians 2:1-18a

If you've gotten anything at all out of following Christ, if his love has made any difference in your life, if being in a community of the Spirit means anything to you, if you have a heart, if you *care*— then do me a favor: Agree with each other, love each other, be deep-spirited friends. Don't push your way to the front; don't sweet-talk your way to the top. Put yourself aside, and help others get ahead. Don't be obsessed with getting your own advantage. Forget yourselves long enough to lend a helping hand. Think of yourselves the way Christ Jesus thought of himself. He had equal status with God but didn't think so much of himself that he had to cling to the advantages of that status no matter what. Not at all. When the time came, he set aside the privileges of deity and took on the status of a slave, became *human!* Having become human, he stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death—and the worst kind of death at that—a crucifixion. Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth—even those long ago dead and buried—will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God the Father.

What I'm getting at, friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you've done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I'm separated from you, keep it up. Better yet, redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is *God's* energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure. Do everything readily and cheerfully—no bickering, no second-guessing allowed! Go out into the world uncorrupted, a breath of fresh air in this squalid and polluted society. Provide people with a glimpse of good living and of the living God. Carry the light-giving Message into the night so I'll have good cause to be proud of you on the day that Christ returns. You'll be living proof that I didn't go to all this work for nothing. Even if I am executed here and now, I'll rejoice in being an element in the offering of your faith that you make on Christ's altar, a part of your rejoicing. But turnabout's fair play—you must join me in *my* rejoicing.

Gospel Verse

C. Seek Ye First the kingdom of God and His righteous. Then all these things shall be added to you. Alleluia.

Matthew 11: 1-15; 27-30

When Jesus finished placing this charge before his twelve disciples, he went on to teach and preach in their villages. John, meanwhile, had been locked up in prison. When he got wind of what Jesus was doing, he sent his own disciples to ask, "Are you the One we've been expecting, or are we still waiting?" Jesus told them, "Go back and tell John what's going on: The blind see, The lame walk, Lepers are cleansed, The deaf hear, The dead are raised, The wretched of the earth learn that God is on their side. "Is this what you were expecting? Then count yourselves most blessed!"

When John's disciples left to report, Jesus started talking to the crowd about John. "What did you expect when you went out to see him in the wild? A weekend camper? Hardly. What then? A sheik in silk pajamas? Not in the wilderness, not by a long shot. What then? A prophet? That's right, a prophet! Probably the best prophet you'll ever hear. He is the prophet that Malachi announced when he wrote, 'I'm sending my prophet ahead of you, to make the road smooth for you.'

Let me tell you what's going on here: No one in history surpasses John the Baptizer; but in the kingdom he prepared you for, the lowliest person is ahead of him. For a long time now people have tried to force themselves into God's kingdom. But if you read the books of the Prophets and God's Law closely, you will see them culminate in John, teaming up with him in preparing the way for the Messiah of the kingdom. Looked at in this way, John is the 'Elijah' you've all been expecting to arrive and introduce the Messiah. "Are you listening to me? Really listening?"

Jesus resumed talking to the people, but now tenderly. “The Father has given me all these things to do and say. This is a unique Father-Son operation, coming out of Father and Son intimacies and knowledge. No one knows the Son the way the Father does, nor the Father the way the Son does. But I’m not keeping it to myself; I’m ready to go over it line by line with anyone willing to listen. “Are you tired? Worn out? Burned out on religion? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. I’ll show you how to take a real rest. Walk with me and work with me—watch how I do it. Learn the unforced rhythms of grace. I won’t lay anything heavy or ill-fitting on you. Keep company with me and you’ll learn to live freely and lightly.”

Children’s Message—*Lavisa Gehring*

Pastor’s Message “Set”—*Intern Pastor Rebecca West-Estell*

Song "Para Donde Vas?"

Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas, dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas, dónde vas

Where are you going
Where are you going
Where are you going, where ya going
Where are you going
Where are you going
Where are you going, where ya going

Si vas al baile, baila conmigo
Si vas al iglesia quiero ir contigo
Si vas a donde quiera
No me quedo atrás
Porque quiero amarte
Más y más

If you go to the dance, dance with me
If you go to the church I want to go with you
If you go where you want
I am not left behind
Because I want to love you
More and more

Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas, dónde vas

Where are you going
Where are you going
Where are you going, where ya going

Si vas al baile, baila conmigo
Si vas al iglesia quiero ir contigo
Si vas a dónde quiera
No me quedo atrás
Porque quiero amarte
Más y más

If you go to the dance, dance with me
If you go to the church I want to go with you
If you go where you want
I am not left behind
Because i want to love you
More and more

Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas, dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas
Para dónde vas, dónde vas

Where are you going
Where are you going
Where are you going, where ya going
Where are you going
Where are you going
Where are you going, where ya going

Meal for Forgiveness and Unity

Communion Narrative (Sung)

PM. On the cool, green hills of Galilee. **C. Almighty God is on His throne**

PM. Jesus walked beside the sea. **C. Gentle Savior lead me home.**

PM. Bless be this divine bread giver. **C. Almighty God is on His throne**

PM. He will satisfy us all forever. **C. Gentle Savior Lead me home.**

PM. Blest be this man who eats this bread. **C. Almighty God is on His throne.**

PM. He will never hunger Jesus said. **C. Gentle Savior Lead me home.**

PM. Blest be this man who drinks this cup. **C. Almighty God is on His throne.**

PM. He will never thirst as he supps. **C. Gentle Savior Lead me home.**

Words of Institution—Rev. A.N. Mary Adelsberger

P: In the night in which He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: Take and eat; this is My body, given for you. Do this in memory of Me.

P: Again, after supper, He took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying; This is the new covenant in My blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this in memory of Me.

Communion Prayer

A. Bless us O Lord with these gifts of bread and wine, body and blood, to fulfill us and lead us in our life. Amen.

Response to What God has Done

Prayers of the People

A: Drawn near to God as children and heirs of Christ's promise, we pray for all people of God, for our nation and our world, and for those in need. [*A brief silence.*]

A: For those in our Community of Faith: Bishop Beaudoin and staff, Bishop Eaton and staff, Memorial Church Staff, Student Katie Leslie, Intern Rebecca West-Estell, Monroe Corridor Parish, Hope Learning Academy teachers and families and all teachers and students in all schools, and for faith communities throughout the world. Help us to see ourselves in our neighbors, especially those who differ from us, and draw us together in common service to those who are hungry, poor, and oppressed. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: For the well-being of the earth as we begin another year entrusted with its care. Give us lively imaginations to see ways to conserve its limited resources, harness its renewable energies, and conform ourselves to its natural goodness. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: For peace among nations, for peace in our homes, and for peace in our hearts. Urge us to cry out at injustice and inequality among your people until vindication comes and righteousness prevails. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: For our military personnel: Ryan Woods, Henry Kozak, Dustin Pawloski, and Reid Leslie; guard their lives and keep them safe, Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: For our **homebound**: Dotty Sauer, Claudia Sauer, Bob Rank, Kathy Schoembs, Sam Schlegel, Phyllis Ballas, Joanne Hummel, Doris Buchholz (hospice care), Pat Reiber; and those who are in need of **healing**: Angie Carricer, Seneca, Rebecca Facey, Sandy Hill, Alice Crandell, Betty Seagart's son, Donald Dotson, Eli Loga, Chris Witzel, Kathy Schaefer, Jess Weber (great grandson of Judy & Ken Schwieder), Ken Schwieder, Afaf Barakat, Brenda Facey, Cindy Bunch, Katie Maly, Sheila MacKay Davidson, Marcene Jackson, Leslie Bean, Don Gurwell, Diane Swartz, Dave Gilbert, Char Bachmayer, Diane Denhof, Fred Schaefer, Michael Curtis, and all suffering with Covid 19; Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: For those grieving the loss of friends and family; especially Afaf - whos sister passed away in Lebanon, the families of John Vance, Oscar Bunch, Walt Carlson (Sandy Goodnough's brother), Marie Wenzlick (Teresa Loga's aunt), Mary Elwer (Teresa Loga's great aunt). Only you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Keep us in union with all your saints, and bring us with them to the joyous feast of heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Lord, in your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

A: Into your outstretched arms, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Jesus Christ, the light and life of the world. **C: Amen.**

The Apostle's Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I Believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Announcements

[Sent into the world to Tell](#)

Benediction—

PM. The Lord bless and keep you today and always. In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. C. Amen.

Closing Song "Be A Light"

*In a time full of war, be peace
In a time full of doubt, just believe
Yeah, there ain't that much difference between you and me
In a time full of war, be peace*

*In a world full of hate, be a light
When you do somebody wrong, make it right
Don't hide in the dark, you were born to shine
In a world full of hate, be a light
La-la-la, la la*

*In a place that needs a change, make a difference
In a time full of noise, just listen
'Cause life is but a breeze, better live it
In a place that needs a change, make a difference*

*In a world full of hate, be a light
When you do somebody wrong, make it right
Oh don't hide in the dark, you were born to shine
In a world full of hate, be a light*

La-la-la, la, la, la, la

*In a race that you can't win, slow it down
Yeah, you only get one go around
'Cause the finish line is six feet in the ground
In a race you can't win, just slow it down*

*In a world full of hate, be a light (Oh-oh)
When you do somebody wrong, make it right (Make it right)
Oh don't hide in the dark, you were born to shine
In a world full of hate, be a light*

*Yeah it's hard to live in color
When you just see black and white
In a world full of hate, be a light*

Dismissal

A. Go in peace, tell the story. C. Thanks be to God.