

Sunday Morning Service and Message



**From Pastor Larry and Carmen
Sunday, May 10, 2020**

*For those who have invited friends and family to join us, we ask that you pass their email address on to
Pastor Larry and Carmen at thedean58@hotmail.com.*

We will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. every Sunday morning, beginning with the opening prayer and continuing with the service as outlined. This will seem strange and different as we are all so steeped in “visual media”. However, it makes sense when we truly understand and believe God’s word that says “Where two or three gather in My name, there will I be in their midst.”

Let’s just settle ourselves in for our service. Reverently bow your hearts and pray aloud, knowing that in the Holy Spirit there are many familiar faces of brothers and sisters, loved ones and family all around you, praying together, embracing one another and raising collective voices of praise and worship to our Father God and His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. Think also of those who have gone before and picture them as young and alive, waiting for your entrance into the Kingdom where we will worship God together throughout eternity.

If for some reason you are not able to worship at this time, purpose to meet with God at a later time and go through the worship service with Him. When we draw near to God, He will draw near to us. Open your spiritual eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, as the song goes, and the things of this world will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace. Remember we are all together as one body. Please read and sing it all aloud worshipfully. He says that our praise and worship to Him are as a sweet fragrance in the nostrils of God.

10:00

WELCOME:

Good morning to each of you. Right at this moment, I want every one of us to pull up in our mind a picture of our mother. Take a moment and make this picture of a time she was smiling, laughing and happy. Have you got it? Hold, hold, hold, Ok. Let's say out loud to all mothers and especially our own, "Happy Mother's Day!!!" Also, "Thank You Mom! Thank you for bringing me into this world. Thank you for your love, your faithful care and your patience with me." And if you can, say this, "Mom, thank you for pointing me to God." My own dear mother was a wonderful example of motherhood and grandmother-hood. I still remember my father playing on the piano this little ditty.

"Oh my mother she was true to her children and her home,
She was kind and true and loved us all.
Twas her hand that touched my brow, I can almost feel it now.
You'll never miss your mother until she's gone."

OPENING PRAYER:

Father, thank You for this day that we think of our mothers, that we can always remember their love and sacrifices for us. Lord, You have taught us to respect and honor our mothers. Help us always be grateful to You for the blessings You helped them bring into our lives.

This morning, Father, we ask that You would bless our service with You and to grasp the reality that You are right here in our presence. Teach us with Your precious Holy Spirit and help us to finish this day with a clearer understanding of You and Your word. It's in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SONG OF WORSHIP: Showers Of Blessings

There shall be showers of blessings: This is the promise of love;
There shall be seasons refreshing, Sent from the Savior above.

Chorus

Showers of blessings, Showers of blessings we need:
Mercy-drops round us are falling, But for the showers we plead.

There shall be showers of blessings, Precious reviving again;
Over the hills and the valleys, Sound of abundance of rain.

Chorus

There shall be showers of blessings; Send them upon us, O Lord;
Grant to us now a refreshing, Come, and now honor Thy Word.

Chorus

There shall be showers of blessings: Oh, that today they might fall,
Now as to God we're confessing, Now as on Jesus we call!

Chorus

There shall be showers of blessings, If we but trust and obey;
There shall be seasons refreshing, If we let God have His way.

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Hymnal): Mothers

A wife of noble character – who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.

Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

She brings Him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

She selects wool and flax

And works with eager hands.

She is like the merchant ships,

Bringing her food from afar

She gets up while it is still dark;

She provides food for her family.

She opens her arms to the poor

And extends her hands to the needy.

She is clothed with strength and dignity;

She can laugh at the days to come.

She speaks with wisdom,

And faithful instruction is on her tongue.

She watches over the affairs of her household

And does not eat the bread of idleness.

Her children arise and call her blessed;

Her husband also, and He praises her.

Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;

But a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Proverbs 31:10-15a, 20, 25-28, 30

HYMN OF GATHERING: Joy Unspeakable

I have found His grace is all complete, He supplieth every need;

While I sit and learn at Jesus' feet, I am free, yes, free indeed.

Chorus

It is joy unspeakable and full of glory, Full of glory, full of glory;

It is joy unspeakable and full of glory, Oh, the half has never yet been told.

I have found the pleasure I once craved, It is joy and peace within;

What a wondrous blessing, I am saved From the awful gulf of sin.

Chorus

I have found that hope so bright and clear, Living in the realm of grace;

Oh, the Savior's presence is so near, I can see His smiling face.

Chorus

I have found the joy no tongue can tell, How its waves of glory roll;

It is like a great o'erflowing well, Springing up within my soul.

Chorus

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

The peace of Christ be with You all

And also with You.

(Hug your family )

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER (debts/debtors):

Father, we are thankful for Your love for us. We just acknowledge and declare right now, that You are the great ‘I Am’, You are the Ancient Of Days, You are the King of Kings, You are the Lord of Lords. You are Omnipotent, Omniscient, Omnipresent and Immutable. Your Word says that You are all and in all.

Lord, there are so many people in this world that have never even been taught about You. Lord we are so blessed to know and understand Your great love for us. Help us to never be ashamed of Your Word and give us the strength and holy boldness to share Your love and the sacrifice of Your Son for each one of us to all people we come in contact with.

Lord, You’ve said that we are to enter the narrow gate to salvation and that wide is the gate and broad the way that leads to destruction. Father, help us to be pleasing to You. Help us strive to be the people You have created us to be, and forgive us when we fail You, when we ignore You, when we quench Your Holy Spirit. Lord we ask that You would strengthen us as we continue through this challenging time.

Thank You for the prayer that Jesus gave His disciples. 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.

GLORIA PATRI:

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.

TODAY’S READING:

Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God. Our hearts and minds are open and we are eager to hear.

A READING FROM GOD’S WORD: 2 Peter 3:9

“The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward You, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance.”

MESSAGE:

THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT IS PATIENCE

“God wants to grow us up spiritually so that every action of our lives will be a portrait of Jesus.”
Paul G. Trulin.

Why is impatience such a problem for people? God certainly teaches us in His Word the importance of being patient. In the Greek the word patience is a compound word made up of two other words. Hypo, a word meaning under and moneo which means to abide or remain. So remain under is the idea as we go through difficult situations, when it is not wise or possible to

escape or avoid them. It means to bear up courageously under some degree of suffering. To be patient is to endure discomfort, waiting without complaint.

Ecclesiastes 7:9 – Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools.

Ephesians 4:2 – Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Romans 12:12 – Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer.

Psalms 37:7-9 – Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for Him; do not fret when people succeed in their ways, when they carry out their wicked schemes. Refrain from anger and turn from wrath; do not fret—it leads only to evil. For those who are evil will be destroyed, but those who hope in the Lord will inherit the land.

2 Thessalonians 1:4 – Therefore, among God’s churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring.

Romans 5:1-5 -- Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: By whom also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only so, but we glory in tribulations also: knowing that tribulation worketh patience; And patience, experience; and experience, hope: And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

1 Corinthians 13:4 – Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.

Philippians 4:6 – Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God.

Proverbs 15:18 – A hot-tempered person stirs up conflict, but the one who is patient calms a quarrel.

In our world today, we are in the habit of getting things instantly with foods such as instant cereals, instant milk, coffee, indigestion relief, pain killers, whitened teeth, and many other things. We want everything... instantly. (Example...Lord give me patience and give it to me now.) We want convenience and service. Fast food, fast lines at the stores, fast lanes for our driving, etc. Right now we are all disappointed that we can't seem to get back to our jobs, our church, our restaurants, our stores, because of this virus. Disappointment is defined as unmet expectations. We expected to keep right on going the way we always have but instead, we are having to wait.

In James 1:2 it says, “Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces patience.” Just think of our own lives. Where are we weak in this area? Is it impatience with other people? How about in the line at Walmart, following drivers who are driving below the speed limit, impatient with our families, our older people? I believe we can identify and add other scenarios to those I just mentioned.

When our children were first driving I took our label maker... (Remember those?)... and made a label that said ICKY. I put it right on the dashboard of our cars by the odometer, because we all get impatient in traffic. But, the worst can be trying to get around someone on a two-lane highway and then taking chances by passing in a line of traffic or on a hill, without being sure the road is clear ahead. It could be like someone coming over the hill or pulling out of a side drive that we cannot see. ICKY means "Impatience Can Kill You."

I've learned that there are three basic types of patience:

1. Casual impatience: A dog barking in the night, a rainy day when you had a picnic planned, a football game where your team lost. These are just basic, daily irritations. We all go through them. We realize that life can be frustrating at times.
2. Unexpected impatience: A flat tire on the highway, a temporary layoff at work, a fender bender. We knock over a glass of iced tea at our computer desk, ruining our computer. Being greatly inconvenienced and bored by being required to stay home from church, school, stores, etc. because of a worldwide pandemic. We know these things can happen.
3. Serious, life-changing ongoing impatience: A bedridden disease, pain that seems to never go away. A lifetime disability that constrains you from doing the normal things that others can easily do.

God wants to stretch us in our patience by allowing us to encounter situations where we need to wait. We're to wait on Him... to understand that things are not going to always go exactly or as quickly as we would like for them to. Look at us today. We are waiting, pausing, persevering, and tarrying, with no certainty as to how long this will last. Some have become tired of waiting and are moving out. Who am I to say whether they are correct in this or not? Our board has decided to wait patiently for another month to come to church together. This decision was not made lightly. Many things had to be taken into consideration as they deliberated on your behalf. This decision to wait was one they all had peace about.

I believe that God is at the point of our need. If it is urgent He will handle it as He feels it is required. If it is long term, He will be working behind the scenes to arrange people, places and things to coincide with His perfect timing required to bring it about. When we pray for something we know God is in, we must sit back and trust and thank Him for what He is doing. We do this in faith. We cannot see it yet but we know He is working to bring it about. He says that He has given each of us a measure of faith. He expects us to use it. He goes on to say without faith it is impossible to please Him. The apostle Paul had an ongoing pain in the flesh and asked God three times to heal Him and God said, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness," Paul said, "Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me."

I believe that we are and will continue to go through situations in the coming months and years that will be challenging for us. God wants us to learn to trust Him and to wait on Him, patiently listening for the still small voice of the Holy Spirit of God to lead us in the correct direction for every area of our lives. In other words, this pandemic may be the precursor of more weighty and

significant things to come in the future. We must learn to draw close and wait to hear from God. He will warn and advise His kids. If we don't learn to listen and understand when God is impressing something on and for us, then we will face further challenges in the future without His leading, as will most non-Christians.

I think that as with most things we can challenge ourselves to take baby steps in this direction if we are having problems with patience. While we are waiting for the things that bother us the most God is wanting us to grow stronger spiritually in our patience. Maybe while we are waiting in line at Walmart, we should pray for the clerk who is working hard to ring up the customers in front of us. We can look around and pray for an older person or challenged person or angry person standing in front, beside or behind us. We can pray for the people in the car ahead of us that we are not able yet to pass, etc. This is pleasing to God. Probably we all need to work on those things. I know I do.

Next Week: The Fruit of the Spirit is Kindness!

DOXOLOGY:

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

HYMN FOR THE JOURNEY: I Come to the Garden Alone

I come to the garden alone while the dew is still on the roses,
And the voice I hear falling on my ear, The Son of God discloses.

Chorus:

And He walks with me and He talks with me, and He tells me I am His own;
And the joy we share as we tarry there, None other has ever known.

He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet The birds hush their singing,
And the melody that He gives to me Within my heart is ringing.

Chorus:

I stay in the garden with Him, Though the night around me is falling.
But He bids me go; through the voice of woe His voice to me is calling.

Chorus:

BENEDICTION:

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May He cause His face to shine upon you. May He lift up His countenance unto you, and give you peace. Amen

Note to Erna Lou Kastendieck: Carmen and I, and I'm sure many others, definitely miss your postlude. We miss your music too, Cindy, and choir!

Christian brothers and sisters, no matter our situation in life or how old we are, always remember...we have a marvelous future ahead of us! Keep the faith, stay the course, and carry on bravely.

WE LOVE EACH OF YOU. MAY GOD RICHLY BLESS YOU IN THE COMING WEEK!

Pastor Larry and Carmen

