



Prayers of the Congregation

Jesus' Prayer – Contemporary Version by Parker Palmer

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother, Holy and blessed is your true name. We pray for your reign of peace to come, we pray that your good will be done; let heaven and earth become one. Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none. Let forgiveness flow like a river between us, from each one to each one. Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days — Come swiftly, Mother, Father, come. For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy: Forever your name is All in One. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Maks Vidovic

**Portions of James 5:7-20**

- One: Be patient, then, friends, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near.
- All: **Don't grumble against each other or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!**
- One: Friends, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.
- All: **Above all, my beloved, do not swear – not by heaven or earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes and your "No," no, or you will be condemned.**
- One: Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let her sing songs of praise. Is any one of you sick? That person should call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.
- All: **And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise that person up. If he or she has sinned, he or she will be forgiven. Therefore, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.**
- One: Elijah was a human just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops.
- All: **My friends, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring you back, remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of their way will save that one from death and cover over a multitude of sins.**

Anthem *Gaelic Blessing*

Riley Hinnenkamp, baritone

Gwyneth Walker

Offering Our Gifts

\* Hymn *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

UM Hymnal #496

Sermon *Putting Feet to Our Faith #6: Patient, Prayerful Planning*

Pastor Jeanine Alexander

\* Hymn *Song of Hope*

The Faith We Sing #2186; sing twice

Benediction

Postlude *Lean on Me*

Tapestry; Leah and Corey Hulst, directors

Bill Withers

\* Please stand as you are comfortable



## ***Announcements***

***Please remember to fill out the Connect Cards*** each week. Keeping attendance and making sure the church has your current contact information is an important part of church records. ***On the back of the card***, is a list of ministry opportunities, where your help can make a difference! These will change often, so check them each week and please sign up where you can.

***Guests:*** Welcome to First United Methodist Church. We are so glad you are worshipping with us today! Please stop by the Welcome Desk in the Narthex; we have a packet and small gift for first-time visitors.

***Please join us for coffee and doughnuts*** in Lakeview Social Hall following the worship service.

***Faith Forum*** is held Sunday mornings from 9-9:45am in the Fireside Lounge. Next week, **March 24**, Alex Flinner will talk about his year of driving an electric car. Faith Forum will not be held on Easter Sunday.

### ***Holy Week Services:***

***Palm/Passion Sunday***, March 24, will feature a palm processional.

***Maundy Thursday Last Supper and Service of the Shadows***, Thursday, March 28, at 7pm will include Holy Communion and journeying all the way to Jesus' death.

***Good Friday Service***, Friday, March 29, at noon in the Three Brothers Chapel, will walk us through Jesus' death and the events of the last hours of his life.

***Easter Sunrise Service***, Sunday, March 31 at 7am, will be a short service in the Sanctuary featuring Tapestry.

***Easter Morning Coffee Hour*** will take place between the two services, from 9-9:45 in Lakeview Social Hall.

***Easter Worship***, Sunday, March 31 at 10am, will be our traditional worship service with choir, bells, orchestra, and organ.

***Our Lenten/Easter giving:*** half of our financial giving will go to the church's operating budget, which makes everything we do possible. The other half will be split between Harbor House Crisis Shelter in Superior and the Duluth NAACP Ignite Empower Transform Foundation. We will also be collecting food for the Food Shelf every week in March, as part of the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign.

***Guest WIFI Network:*** FirstUnitedPublic. Password: Public2022.

***Thank you*** to Alex Flinner, Tommy Kishida, and the Livestream Team for making the online service possible.

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## **Ways You Can Help Your Church**



***Volunteers are needed*** to bring a dozen muffins on Easter morning, for the coffee hour before the 10am worship service.

## Putting FEET To Our Faith – A Study of the Book of JAMES

### James 4:13-5:20

**(chapter 4)** <sup>13</sup>Now listen, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money." <sup>14</sup>Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. <sup>15</sup>Instead, you ought to say, "If it is the Lord's will, we will live and do this or that." <sup>16</sup>As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil. <sup>17</sup>Anyone, then, who knows the good they ought to do and doesn't do it, sins.

**(chapter 5)** <sup>1</sup>Now listen, you rich people, weep and wail because of the misery that is coming upon you. <sup>2</sup>Your wealth has rotted, and moths have eaten your clothes. <sup>3</sup>Your gold and silver are corroded. Their corrosion will testify against you and eat your flesh like fire. You have hoarded wealth in the last days. <sup>4</sup>Look! The wages you failed to pay the workmen who mowed your fields are crying out against you. The cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord Almighty. <sup>5</sup>You have lived on earth in luxury and self-indulgence. You have fattened yourselves in the day of slaughter. <sup>6</sup>You have condemned and murdered innocent people, who were not opposing you.

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, then, friends, until the Lord's coming. See how the farmer waits for the land to yield its valuable crop and how patient he is for the autumn and spring rains. <sup>8</sup>You too, be patient and stand firm, because the Lord's coming is near. <sup>9</sup>Don't grumble against each other, or you will be judged. The Judge is standing at the door!

<sup>10</sup>Friends, as an example of patience in the face of suffering, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>As you know, we consider blessed those who have persevered. You have heard of Job's perseverance and have seen what the Lord finally brought about. The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.

<sup>12</sup>Above all, my beloved, do not swear—not by heaven or by earth or by anything else. Let your "Yes" be yes, and your "No," no, or you will be condemned.

<sup>13</sup>Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let her sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Is any one of you sick? That person should call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise that person up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

<sup>17</sup>Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years. <sup>18</sup>Again he prayed, and the heavens gave rain, and the earth produced its crops. <sup>19</sup>My friends, if one of you should wander from the truth and someone should bring him or her back, <sup>20</sup>remember this: Whoever turns a sinner from the error of his or her way will save him or her from death and cover over a multitude of sins.

## SERMON NOTES

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### PRAYING SCRIPTURE ...

- When we experience times of happiness and joy, let's think of Psalm 100 ... *Make a joyful noise to the Lord...."*
- When thoughts of the future, or some impending change, seeks to paralyze us let's hear words from Jeremiah 29:11 ... *For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.*
- When we deal with trials and difficulties may we receive help in these words from Psalm 46:1 ... *God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.*
- When we're not sure who we are, or what will become of us, hear the message from God in Isaiah 43:1 ... *I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.*
- When we have important decisions facing us may we remember to follow Proverbs 3:5-6 ... *Trust in the Lord with all your heart ... and God will direct your paths.*
- When our hearts are filled with apprehension and fear, let's cling to Joshua 1:9 ... *Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.*
- When we need extra confidence, and a dose of healthy esteem, may we recall Philippians 4:13 ... *I can do all this through Christ who gives me strength.*
- When we are having trouble sleeping because our minds are running with worry, anxiety, or even excitement, let's claim Philippians 4:6-7 ... *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.* And then let's put everything on our mind to prayer and find that promised peace.
- When we are emotionally and physically tired, let's go to the God who says in Matthew 11:28 ... *Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.*