

Message from Rev. Jackson for Sunday, June 27, 2021

As we gather for worship on this last Sunday in June, I rejoice that so many of you have been attending worship at our outdoor services. Summer is here and we have been blessed with good weather this past month.

This week we will examine the Gospel of Mark 5:21-43. This part of the gospel contains some very inspirational stories about Jesus healing a woman desperate for help with a bleeding issue for twelve years. She touches His cloak as He passes by and she is immediately healed. Jesus sensed that power went out from Him. In verse 34 He told the woman, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering." It is amazing the miracles Jesus can accomplish in our lives if we reach out to Him in faith. We are called to turn to Jesus for help first, not last. In the next story, Jesus is approached by Jairus, the synagogue leader. His daughter is dying and he has come to ask Jesus for help. News arrives that she is dead. Jesus tells him, "Don't be afraid; just believe." When Jesus gets to his house, the mourners have already arrived and are wailing. Jesus announces that the little girl is not dead, only sleeping. The paid mourners laughed at Him. The world so often scoffs at faith. Jesus goes into the house and says, "Little girl, get up." She gets up and walks around ... completely healed. Again, so often we approach with doubts instead of faith. Jesus can accomplish great things when we place our faith and belief in Him. Here are two examples of people who did and reaped miraculous results.

The Old Testament lesson is from Lamentations 3:22-33. The key verses are verses 22 and 23, "Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed, for his compassions never fail. They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness." The other verses explain the compassionate love of the Lord.

The New Testament lesson is from Galatians 6:11-18. The key verse is verse 14, "May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world." Paul explains that circumcision is not important because ... "for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus." These are the things that mark us as a Christian and not the cutting of flesh. He calls the Galatians to live as those called by Jesus. Persecutions are a sign that they are putting their faith into practice.

As the COVID pandemic seems to be coming less and less of a threat, we praise God for His healing and protection. This will be my last weekly message for the summer. Please refer to the newsletter for the months of July and August. We invite you all to join us for Sunday worship on the lawn (weather permitting, otherwise, inside) at 10:00 a.m.

*Great is your faithfulness!
Great is your faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed your hands have provided
Great is your faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

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

(refrain)

Pardon for sin and a peace that's enduring,
Your own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

(refrain)

<https://youtu.be/31ymVm-6Ylw>

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Prayer Requests

We hold you all in prayer each week. If you have any prayer requests please let Rev. Bob know at 508-410-1585 or email him at revrhjackson@gmail.com so they can be shared with our church family on Sunday morning.

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