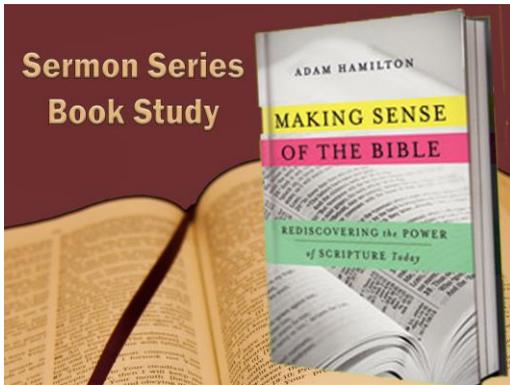


Worship Celebration: September 8, 2019

9:15 a.m. (CONTEMPORARY)

EPWORTH: a United Methodist Church

13th Sunday after Pentecost (Year C)



Welcome to Epworth on this Rally Day! It's Back to School for our children and youth and even our adults. During this sermon series, we are focusing on the Bible and trying to make sense of this foundational book of our faith. Today's focus is the New Testament – when it was written, how the stories were told and what it meant to have a NEW part of the Bible for early Christians. Because it's Rally Day – we'll bless the backpacks of our children as they head back to school, as well as dedicate our Preschool and Sunday school teachers. We are glad you are here with us this day!

EPWORTH

a United Methodist Church

19285 Holland Glade Road

Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

(302) 227-7743 ☎ www.eumcrb.org



VISION: Exploring Faith, Embracing Community

MISSION: Inviting All, Finding Your Place, Connecting to God, Demonstrating Care

✠ WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY ✠

Praise Gathering

NOBODY FILLS MY HEART LIKE JESUS

I'd like to say, Lord, from the start
 Thank You for breaking through my heart.
 Thank You for tearing ev'ry chain apart.
 When I was lost You made a way,
 You turned the darkest night to day.
 You are my joy and Lord, I'd like to say that

*Nobody fills my heart like Jesus!
 Nobody thrills me like You do!
 Nobody fills my heart like Jesus
 Nobody, Lord, but You! (repeat)
 Nobody but You!*

When I am weak, my Lord, You're strong,
 Loving me even when I'm wrong.
 Lord, You are my salvation and my song.
 Every day I'll make the choice

Just listening, following Your voice.
Being with You, I can't help but rejoice for *{Refrain}* ¹

Greeting, Sharing the Mission & Ministry of Epworth

Todd

*Passing the Peace of Christ

*Singing in Praise

WHAT A FRIEND

Ev'rybody has trials, and temptations. (Ooh, ooh.)
Ev'rybody knows heart break, isolation. (Ooh, ooh.)
But we can lay our burdens down, lay our burdens down.

*What a friend we have in Jesus, cast to west my sins are gone.
I see grace on ev'ry horizon, and forever and ever his heart is my home.*

Ev'rybody has fears, ev'rybody got worry. (Ooh, ooh.)
Ev'rybody knows sorrow, devastation. (Ooh, ooh.)
But we can lay our burdens down, lay our burdens down. *{Chorus}*

No more betrayal, for he is faithful, He fills me up and my cup runneth over.
No more betrayal, for he is faithful, how He has proven it over and over.

No more betrayal, for he is faithful, He fills me up and my cup runneth over.
No more betrayal, for he is faithful, for He has proven it over and over, over and over.
{Chorus Twice}

TAG: Forever and ever his heart is my home. ²

Blessing of the Backpacks

Rev. Todd Shultz

Teacher Dedication

Rev. Vicky

A Litany for Teachers, Leaders, and Students

Leader: As the summer draws to an end and school begins, students and teachers prepare to return to school, Sunday school teachers get ready to start again and our Epworth Preschool prepares for new classes and students.

People: God, we give You thanks for our teachers, leaders, and students.

Leader: As pencils are sharpened and backpacks are filled, children prepare to meet their teachers and learn their schedules, and new students nervously hope to make new friends,

People: We remember the boy Jesus as he stayed behind in the temple, to learn as well as to teach, and so we ask for Your blessing upon our students, that they may grow in understanding and that we may learn from them.

Leader: As curriculum is given to new and seasoned teachers, volunteers look forward to each Sunday with joy and a little nervousness, preschool teachers welcome new and former students and youth leaders plan events for the Fall, and the whole church prepares for the re-beginning of Sunday school,

People: God, we ask for Your blessing upon our Sunday school teachers and preschool teachers, upon our youth leaders, and our adult education leaders, that they may seek Your wisdom and guidance and know the support of the congregation. We ask for Your blessing upon our children, youth and adults who have come to learn more about You and Your love.

All: O God, we thank you for the gift of education and what it means to learn and grow in our faith and in our lives. Bless all those who teach and learn this year! Amen.

✠ WE PREPARE FOR THE WORD ✠

THY WORD

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me,
and nothing will I fear as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end. {Chorus}

Epistle Lesson

Romans 1:1-7 (The Message)

Michael Cockey

I, Paul, am a devoted slave of Jesus Christ on assignment, authorized as an apostle to proclaim God's words and acts.

I write this letter to all the believers in Rome, God's friends.

The sacred writings contain preliminary reports by the prophets on God's Son.

His descent from David roots him in history; his unique identity as Son of God was shown by the Spirit when Jesus was raised from the dead, setting him apart as the Messiah, our Master.

Through him we received both the generous gift of his life and the urgent task of passing it on to others who receive it by entering into obedient trust in Jesus.

You are who you are through this gift and call of Jesus Christ!

And I greet you now with all the generosity of God our Father and our Master Jesus, the Messiah.

***Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 5:38-48 (NRSV)

"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'

But I say to you, Do not resist an evildoer.

But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also; and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile.

Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

"You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.'

But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven; for he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the righteous and on the unrighteous.

For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have?

Do not even the tax collectors do the same?

And if you greet only your brothers and sisters, what more are you doing than others?
Do not even the Gentiles do the same?
Be perfect, therefore, as your heavenly Father is perfect.

Brothers and Sisters,
This is the Word of God for the People of God.

§Thanks be to God

THY WORD (CONT)

I will not forget Your love for me and yet my heart forever is wandering.
Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side, and I will love You to the end. {Chorus}
TAG: And a light unto my path. You're the light unto my path. ³

Sermon

Making Sense of the Bible – New Testament

Rev. Vicky Starnes

☞ WE RESPOND TO THE WORD ☛

Song of Response

THE GOSPEL

A restless generation, we're turning over ev'ry stone,
hoping to find salvation in a world that's left us cold.
Can we get back to the altar, back to the arms of our first love?
There's only one way to the Father, and He's calling out to us.

*To the captive it looks like freedom, to the orphan it feels like home.
To the skeptic it might sound crazy to believe in a God who loves.
In a world where our hearts are breaking, and we're lost in the mess we've made,
like a blinding light in the dead of night, it's the Gospel, the Gospel that makes a way.
It's the Gospel that makes a way.*

It's the cure for our condition, it's the Good News for us all.
It's greater than religion, it's the power of the cross.
So, can we get back to the altar, back to the arms of our first love?
There's only one way to the Father, and He's calling out to us. {Chorus}

It's the Gospel that makes a way.

In my own life it means forgiveness when I know I deserve the fall.
It called me out of my darkness and carried me to the cross.
In a moment my eyes were opened, in that moment my heart was changed.
Like a blinding light in the dead of night, it's the Gospel. {Chorus}

TAG: *It's the Gospel that makes a way. Oh, oh, it's the Gospel that makes a way.
It's the Gospel, the Gospel that makes a way.* ⁴

Joys & Concerns

Todd

The Lord's Prayer

(sung responsively)

FWS 2248

Invitation to Offering ~ Please sign the blue Connections Pad and pass it down the row.

Vicky

Offerings are given through cash and check, on-line giving, Texting at 302-488-0038
and by using our Giving Kiosk in the main lobby. There are Giving Cards in the pews to place in the plate, if you wish
Bless your heart for supporting our ministries!

LIFESONG

Empty hands held high, such small sacrifice.
If not joined with my life, I sing in vain tonight.
May the words I say and the things I do
Make my lifesong sing, bring a smile to You.

*Let my lifesong sing to You. Let my lifesong sing to You
I wanna sign Your name to the end of this day, knowin' that my heart was true.
Let my lifesong sing to You*

Lord I give my life, a living sacrifice,
to reach a world in need, to be Your hands and feet.
May the words I say and the things I do
Make my lifesong sing, bring a smile to You. {Refrain}

(Bridge) Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Let my lifesong sing to You. (repeat 4x) {Refrain}

TAG: Let my lifesong sing to You. (Repeat 2x) ⁵

☞ We Are Sent into the World ☛

*Benediction

Vicky

*Sending Song

EVERY PRAISE

Ev'ry praise is to our God, ev'ry word of worship with one accord.
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise is to our God.
Sing Hallelujah to our God. Glory Hallelujah is due our God.
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise is to our God. (repeat 2X)

God, my Savior. God, my healer. God, my deliverer.
Yes, He is. Yes, He is. (repeat) Yes, He is. Yes, he is.

Ev'ry praise is to our God. Ev'ry word of worship with one accord.
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise.
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise,
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise is to our God. (repeat)

Ev'ry praise is to our God. Ev'ry word of worship with one accord.
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise.
Ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise, ev'ry praise. ⁶

*Please stand as you are able.

Bulletins for the month of September are sponsored by the United Methodist Women.

Chancel Flowers are given to the glory of God and:

- In memory of Al Meaney on his 57th birthday by David & James;
- In remembrance of her father, Ben MacKeade, by Ginny Papke.

Stephen Ministers, wearing blue name badges, will be at each service if anyone in the Epworth family wants to talk about any life challenges.

The special Peace Candle on the Chancel shines to remind us of God's desire for peace throughout our world and our call to be God's peacemakers.

DVD and Broadcast Ministries: All Church Service at Epworth are presented using multimedia technology. The screens above the Chancel area are used for text, videos, photographs and live cameras. Each service is digitally recorded for archive purposes as well as for distribution to our homebound members on DVD. These recording may also be broadcast or archived on our web page. Therefore, you may, at any time, be seen and recorded on camera - anywhere throughout the Sanctuary.

Acolyte Bianca Camiolo

Sound Sharon Wert, Josh Megee, Arne Jerfsten, Karen Kaufman

Ushers Head Usher: Jim Blakeslee

Usher Coordinator – Worship Pathway:

9:30: Wally & Joan Sprague, Dale & Sandy Biller, Nancy Almacy, Sam Vyas

Worship Resources

Song lyrics by permission of CCLI license no. 1019082.

¹ *Nobody Fills My Heart Like Jesus*: Dennis Jernigan ©1993 Shepherd's Heart Music, Inc.

² *What a Friend*: Abbie Parker, Adam Palmer, Matt Maher & Matthew Hein ©2017 All Essential Music

³ *Thy Word*: Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith ©1984 Meadowgreen Music Co.

⁴ *The Gospel*: Bryan Fowler, Toby McKeehan & Ryan Stevenson ©2017 Musical Moodswing

⁵ *Lifesong*: Mark Hall ©2005 My Refuge Music, Sony/ATV Tree Publishing.

⁶ *Every Praise*: Hezekiah Walker & John David Bratton ©2013 Li'l Eva Music, Luv Ki Music Publishing

Ministers: The Church Family... *Lay Leader*: Gwen Osborne

Senior Pastor: Rev. Vicky Starnes ... *Associate Pastor*: Rev. Todd Shultz

Director of Music Ministries: Doug Yetter ... *Choir Accompanist*: Linda Hess ... *Coordinator of Caring Ministries*: Mickie McManamon

Manager of Facilities & Technologies: Kenneth Mahan ... *Office Manager*: Darlene Ford ... *ASL Interpreter*: Sandy Davis

Special Projects: Debbie Hunt ... *Administrative Assistant*: Diana Young ... *Sound Tech*: Josh Megee

Preschool Director: Betsy Plowman ... *Nursery*: Cathy Crawford ... *Interim Cemetery Superintendent*: Jay Stevenson

Custodian: Wanda Hudson ... *Maintenance*: Mike Harrigan...*Lead Interpreter*: Sandy Davis



EPWORTH
REHOBOTH BEACH
a United Methodist Church
Open Hearts Open Minds Open Doors

19285 Holland Glade Road Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971
302.227.7743 www.EUMCRB.org



Large-Print Bulletins &
Hearing Assist Devices are Available
Please see an Usher for assistance



American Sign
Language
at 9:15 Service



Affiliated with other
United Methodists for
greater inclusiveness
through the
Reconciling Ministries
Network
www.RMNetwork.org

worship@epworth
7:45 & 11:15 - Traditional 9:15 - Contemporary
