

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Life Springs Surprises
(Cpiphany)

Mark 1:29-39

Jesus Arrives
Only to

EPWORTH Move On?

February 4, 2024





Sunday 10 am in-person and online

10 am <u>Blended Worship Order</u>

<u>Calendar</u> & <u>Announcements</u>

<u>Prayer List</u>

Staff & Leadership

<u>VISION</u>: Explore Faith, Embrace Community <u>MISSION</u>: Inviting, Belonging, Connecting, Caring

All Means All

As a <u>Reconciling Ministries Network</u> congregation, we welcome all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, to share their prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.



19285 Holland Glade Rd. Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971 302-227-7743 <u>Epworth.faith</u>



We Gather in Worship

GOD SO LOVED

Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash, Scott Cash & Andrew Bergthold ©2019 We the Kingdom Music

Come, all you weary. Come all you thirsty. Come to the well that never runs dry. Drink of the water. Come and thirst no more.

Come, all you sinners. Come, find His mercy. Come to the table. He will satisfy. Taste of His goodness. Find what you're looking for.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions. Come, lay them down at the foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting there with open arms. See His open arms?

{Repeat Chorus}

The pow'r of hell, forever defeated. Now it is well; I'm walking in freedom. For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Praise God, praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, praise Him for the wonders of His love.
Praise God, praise God, from Whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, praise Him for the wonders of His love, His amazing love.
For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save.
For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us.
Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

The pow'r of hell, forever defeated. Now it is well; I'm walking in freedom. For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Bring all your failures, bring your addictions. Come, lay them down at the foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting. God so loved the world.

The Gospel

Bryan Fowler, Toby McKeehan, & Ryan Stevenson ©2017 Musical Moodswing Praise Team / Chancel Choir

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. {Refrain}

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. {Refrain}

TAG: It's the Gospel that makes a way.

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.

Welcome

Gwen Osborne

GOODNESS OF GOD

Jenn Johnson, Brian Johnson, Jason Ingram, Ed Cash, & Ben Fielding ©2019 Shout Music Publishing

I love you, Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me.
All my days I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up,
until I lay my head –
oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.
And all my life You have been faithful.
And all my life You have been so, so good.

With every breath that I am able, oh, I will sing of the goodness of God.

I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire. And in the darkest nights You are close like no other.

I've known You as Jehovah, I've known You as a friend. And I have lived in the goodness of God. {Refrain}

'Cause Your goodness is a-running after, it's a-running after me. And Your goodness is a-running after, it's a-running after me. With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now, I give You everything. 'Cause Your goodness is a-running after, it's a-running after me. {Repeat section} And all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good. With every breath that I am able, oh, I gonna sing of the goodness of God. I'm gonna sing, I'm gonna sing! Oh, yes, 'cause all my life You have been faithful. And all my life You have been so, so good. With every breath that I am able, Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.

Kid's Time

Joy Gordy-Stith

Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

FORWARD BY FAITH

Words and Music by Cindy Barry, 2003 Chancel Choir

Lord, You are the potter and we are the clay.

Mold our lives into vessels for Your service, we pray.

And when we go through the fire,
may You find us strong and true,
As by faith we follow onward,
placing our trust in You.

Forward by faith led by Your hand

Forward by faith, led by Your hand, willing to follow Your ev'ry command, United in spirit, together we stand. We will go forward by faith.

Help us heavenly Father to walk by faith and not by sight.
Living each day in vict'ry by the power of Your might.
Lord, work within us, according to Your will,
As we yield our lives in service, Your plans to fulfill.
{Refrain}

Majestically, in victory we'll follow on, pressing t'ward the heavenly prize that is ours in the name of Jesus, The name of Jesus Christ. {Refrain}

Lesson: *Mark 1:29-39* Len Johnson, reader

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed by demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases and cast out many demons, and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also, for that is what I came out to do." And he went throughout all Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons. May this scripture inspire us all...

§ to walk in the way that leads to life.

O CHRIST, THE HEALER

Fred Pratt Green, 1967 / William B. Bradbury, 1861 O Christ, the healer, we have come to pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to be restored when reached by love that never ends? From ev'ry ailment flesh endures our bodies clamor to be freed; yet in our hearts we would confess that wholeness is our deepest need.

In conflicts that destroy our health we recognize the world's disease; our common life declares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these? Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your community may find the wholeness that, enriching us, shall reach the whole of humankind.

We Pray for Our Pastor

Len Johnson

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Prayer of Confession / Words of Assurance

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth...

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise Your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed are those who come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

...as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...Through your Son, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory are Yours, Almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER Spoken

Music during Communion: Come to the Table

Ben Glover, Ben McDonald & Dave Frey ©2015 9Tone Songs We all start on the outside, the outside looking in.

This is where grace begins.

We were hungry, we were thirsty, with nothing left to give.

Oh, the shape that we were in.

And just when all hope seemed lost,

Love opened the door for us. He said:

Come to the table.

Come join the sinners who have been redeemed.

Take your place beside the Savior.

Sit down and be set free.

Come to the table.

Come meet this motley crew of misfits, these liars and these thieves; There's no one unwelcome here. And that sin and shame that you brought

with you,
you can leave it at the door

and let mercy draw you near.

So, come to the table.

Come join the sinners who have been redeemed. Take your place beside the Savior.

Sit down and be set free.

Come to the table. Come to the table.

To the thief and to the doubter, to the hero and the coward, to the pris'ner and the soldier, to the young and to the older, all who hunger all who thirst, all the last and all the first, all the paupers and the princes, all who fail, you've been forgiven, all who dream and all who suffer, all who loved and lost another, all the chained and all the free, all who follow, all who lead, anyone who's been let down, all the lost, you have been found, all who've been labeled right or wrong, to ev'ryone who hears this song:

Come to the table.

Come join the sinners; you have been redeemed. Take your place beside the Savior.

Sit down and be set free.

Sit down and be set free.

Come to the table, come to the table.

Sit down and be set free. Come to the table.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith

Goodness of God

'Cause Your goodness is a-running after, it's a-running after me.

And Your goodness is a-running after, it's a-running after me.

it's a-running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now,

I give You everything.

'Cause Your goodness is a-running after,

it's a-running after me. {Repeat section}
And all my life You have been faithful.
And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able,
oh, I gonna sing of the goodness of God.
I'm gonna sing, I'm gonna sing!
Oh, yes, 'cause all my life You have been faithful.
And all my life You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able,
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.
Oh, I'm gonna sing of the goodness of God.

Joys and Concerns for your prayers this Week of February 4, 2024

Sympathy 5 4 1

To Kim Witmer, family and friends, on the death of her father., Jack Witmer.

To Shannon Harris, family and friends, on the death of her husband, James "Jim" Harris.

Concerns:

People in conflict of Israel and Gaza Strip

People of Ukraine

Deaf People of Ukraine

Gary Bacon

David Bendekovits

Cathy Benson

Brad Bingaman

Annabelle Boire

Jeff Bond

Diaz Bonville

Andy Brangenberg

Tim Bush

Judy Buchanan

Jennifer Eden Family

David Caffier

Joelle Colleta

Sylvie Drew

Sherri Ealy

Carol Fehrenbach

Deb Ferlitto

Finn

Marion Ford

Vicki Gordy-Stith

Tom Groff

Shannon Harris

Kathy Hill

Ray Hilt

Barb Hoffman

Mickey Hoffman

Carolyn Horn

Deb Hunt

Juliano Family

Sandra Kennedy.

Ted Kerwin

Chloe Kincade-Crean

Kris Koch

Nancy Krupa

Duncan Leet

Eton Lewis

Jerry Mahon

Missy Mehring

Pam Mehring

n ann Michining

Brenda Milbourne

Joy Mitchell

Steve Mosteller

Ann Paulen

Ron Paxton

Glenn Pierce

Richard Pioli

Annette Predeaux Constance Quillen Frank Quillen

Charlie Reynolds

Dallas Reynolds

Barbara Simpson John Riley Spillane

Jana Raup

Judy Reich Victoria Reinholt

Charlie Reynolds

Dallas Reynolds

Bill Richardson

Beth Rinker Betty Robbins

Sandy Roca

Wilmarie Rodriguez

John Sadler

Irene & Tom Saffrit

Mark Saunders Ed Scarborough

Jan Silbaugh

Joan and Henry Simpson

Fred and Sharyn Smith Ray Sonderfan

Paul Streit

Scott Strickler

Mark Thompson

Mike Tibets

Ryan Talumello

Susanne Truitt

Harvey and Peggy Waltersdorf

Wanda Walton-Hummel

Tim Weschler

Michael Wills, Sr

Carol Wine

Dan Wine

Lorrie Witcher

Charlotte Woods

Claire Worrall

Susan Yates

Jean Young

Continued Prayers for those in Assisted Living, Homebound, Hospice or in Long Term Care

Donna Blomquist, The Moorings

Ann Chambers, The Moorings

Leon Cromer, Harbor Health

Carolyn Robinson-Brandywine

Linda Rooney

Quinn Smith

Elaine Trexler

Servicemen/Women: Michael Sakurai Wills, US Army Ft. Jackson, Alaska

Hailye Wilson, USCG Key West

Luke Wilson, USCG Key West

Zeb Wilson, Travis AFB

Jacob Hudson, Quantico Andrew Hudson, UT ROTC

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College/Grad Students

Autumn Reynolds-Cedar Crest College Kristina Alexander, UD Cole Thomas Juliano, Elon Wade Stout-Alex Tamburello, Delaware College of Art and Design Thomas Vyas, Delaware Tech Griffin Barrows, Marist

Epworth Ministry Organization



Staff & Leadership

Church Office: 302-227-7743 (plus extension)
Lead Pastor: Rev. Dr. Vicki Gordy-Stith (x102)
Pastor of Community & Communication:

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith (x103)

Minister of Music: <u>Doug Yetter</u> (x106) Caring Minister: <u>Mickie McManamon</u> (x104) Belonging Minister: <u>Gwen Osborne</u> (x108)

Youth Minister: Joy Gordy-Stith

Minister to Deaf and Hard of Hearing: Sandy Roca

Preschool Director: <u>Betsy Plowman</u> (x107) Financial Manager: <u>Darlene Ford</u> (x105)

Facilities Manager: John Hilt

Cemetery Superintendent: <u>Jay Stevenson</u> Office Manager: <u>Tammy Zhang</u> (x100)

Governing Board Chair—<u>Linda Kauffman</u>
Lay Leader—<u>Todd Popham</u>
Finance Chair—<u>David Hagelin</u>
Staff-Parish Relations Chair—<u>Sandy Pierce</u>
Board of Trustees Chair—<u>Bunny Maher</u>
Scheduling/Rentals & DOVs: <u>Susan Jimenez</u>

Inviting Leadership Team

(Inclusive Ministries, Food Ministries, Ecumenical/Interfaith, Social Justice) Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith and Bob Joynson

Belonging Leadership Team

(Small Groups, New Members/Belongings, Sunday School, Youth & Adult Groups)

<u>Gwen Osborne</u>, <u>Linda BenderHilt</u>, <u>Loretta Mahan</u>, Cathie Lewis **and** Teri Moore

Connecting Leadership Team

(Worship, Music, Arts)

Doug Yetter and Murray Archibald

Caring Leadership Team

(Missions, Pastoral Care Team, Care Ministries)

<u>Mickie McManamon</u>, <u>Dee Speck</u> and <u>Holly Reynolds</u>