

Sunday, March 22, 2020

Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts. Psalm 105:1

THANK YOU to those who are serving us during worship today.

MUSICIANS: Jan Johnson & Angie Meester

GREETERS. Today – North Door – Joy Knepe & Mary Vry
South Door – Arnie & Kay Swanson

Next Sunday: North Door – Ken & Rhonda Meester

South Door – Marlyn & Marcia Allspach

USHERS. Today – Joel & Kellen Reints

Next Sunday – Luke Edeker

VALET PARKING. Today – Ken Mehmen

Next Sunday – Kevin Meester

COFFEE SERVERS. This week – Mike & Kayla Stirling

Next week – Sunday School Kids

THIS WEEK AT PARKERSBURG CRC

Today 9:30 a.m. – Morning Worship Service

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OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Congratulations to **Naomi Allspach**, who will be observing her 94th birthday on March 26.

Please remember those of our congregation who live alone and those alone in care facilities through a phone call or a card in these trying days.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The bulletin has the songs and all the "normal" stuff listed for worship so you can consider the songs chosen for the worship.

There will be no second offering next Sunday.

The Sunday School will be presenting "**The Greatest Story Ever Told**" during Easter Sunday morning worship. Our pageant will highlight Jesus' earthly ministry and conclude with the RESURRECTION!

We invite you to a Men's Prayer Breakfast on April 4th at 7:30 am at Hope Reformed Church in Parkersburg. Gather with other men of all ages for a time to focus on your faith, fellowship and of course, eat delicious food. Breakfast will include waffles, eggs, sausage, bacon, milk & coffee for a freewill donation. Our guest speaker will be Al Kerns and we will have special music by Randy Aalderks. Call Hope Reformed Church at 319-346-1575 for your reservation today!

Timothy Christian School, a Kindergarten - 8th grade Christian Schools International accredited school, located near Wellsburg, is in search of a part-time fifth/sixth grade combination teacher for the 2020-2021 school year. This position will be between 60% and 90% time. Please contact Rebecca Johnson, Administrator, at rjohnson@timothychristianschool.net or call 641-869-3679 for a job description and application.

Reunion of the Excelsior Christian School. Anyone associated with the school are invited and encouraged to attend. Please pass this along to your family members as well. Faculty, Students, School Board, Pastors, Friends, Families, don't miss this! Saturday, August 1, 2020 11:30-3:30 at the Cornerstone Presbyterian Church (where the school originally stood). Our day will include a social hour, lunch, and a program. Check out our Facebook Page: Excelsior Christian School Reunion. For those not on Facebook, you may contact Deb Prier @ 319-939-3522 or Cindy Kannegieter @319-464-6575. If anyone has pictures or other memorabilia, we'd love to see them. We can make copies and return originals.

There is now another way to give offering! You can now give your offering electronically on the church website. It can be set up on a one-time, weekly or monthly basis, using your credit card or from your bank account. You can give to special or faith promise offerings as well. There is also an option to add extra to the offering to cover the transaction fees that are involved. Giving is confidential, no one else on the website will see what you are giving or who is giving. To get started, go to: <http://www.parkersburg-crc.org/give>

The General Fund Collection for March 8 was \$1,216.50. The target amount for each week is \$2,072.00. The offering for Home Missions totaled \$97.00.

Parkersburg Christian Reformed Church

Morning Service

March 22, 2020 – 9:30 AM

WE COME NEAR TO GOD

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship: Psalm 123:1-2

*Song: TCH 157 (1&3) **The Love of God**

*God's Greeting

*Mutual Greeting

Lenten Reading

Song: TCH 311 **Hallelujah, What a Savior!**

God's Will for Our Life: Isaiah 54:4-10

Hymn of Response: TCH 496 **No One Ever Cared for Me Like
Jesus**

Morning Prayer

Offertory and Offering: 1) General Fund
2) Faith Promise

*Hymn: TCH 348 **My Savior's Love**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Scripture: **John 19:16b-27**

Message: **JESUS CARES**

Prayer of Dedication

RESPONSE OF LOVE, GRATITUDE AND SERVICE

*Hymn: TCH 319 **Near the Cross**

*God's Blessing

*Closing Song: **For God So Loved the World**

*Postlude

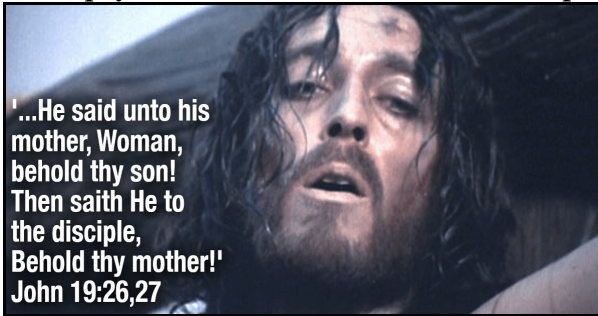
MESSAGE NOTES

IT IS FINISHED

COMPASSION

God always couples compassion with confrontation. Always. God is always just *and* merciful, righteous *and* loving, judging *and* forgiving.

There is both confrontation and compassion at the cross. God confronts sin. He does not excuse it. Sin is a violation against God and someone must pay. Someone must die. But in compassion, Jesus says, "I'll pay. I'll die."



Confrontation may be easy. But compassion? How do you show compassion when it's hard? First, we need to look at God's compassion.

First, God's compassion leads to action. Divine compassion is much more than a fuzzy feeling. The Greek work for passion relates to your guts. Your guts are moved for someone else; you feel for that person deep inside. And that feeling deep in the gut leads to action. God's compassion moves him to rescue, to help, to deliver.

Second, God's compassion arises precisely when his people don't deserve it. Throughout scripture, God's compassion arises when his people stray, betray, and wander. It isn't dependent on their good behavior or obedience. It is aroused when they mess up, run away, turn away, fall down, and fall out. When you've denied, turned, lied, and rebelled...this is when God's compassion becomes most evident!

None of us deserves God's compassion, but we are all recipients of it when we don't deserve it.

The more we see the cross, the clearer we see God's heart. The more we see God's heart, the more we see his compassion. His saving work on the cross was not only for his mother and friend, but for his enemies, as well. His compassion is for you and me. Only because of his radical compassion can we begin to mirror that same compassion in our own lives.

As you prepare for next week's message of "Suffering," please take a few moments to read the suggested daily scriptures.

SUFFERING

I thirst.

John 19:28

With these two words, Jesus reminds us of his humanity. He is Emmanuel – God with us – a true human being who ate and drank and laughed and cried. He is just like us, except that he never sinned. Jesus stared down temptation so that his life could be a complete payment for our debt of sin.

In his distress, Jesus cried out to God. We can do the same because of Jesus. Cry out to him today.

Pray aloud. Finish one of the following prayers:

- Jesus Christ, you made yourself nothing for me. I am nearly speechless. I can only say, "Thank you, Lord." Pour your love into me and show me ways to empty myself in order to serve others like...
- Jesus, you fed more than 5,000 people at once. So satisfy me. Where I am empty and in need, fill me with your good gifts. I cry out to you...
- God, you answer when your people call. Hear my prayer. Come. Act. Respond. Only in the name of Jesus do I dare to ask such a thing. Today, I ask you to...



Monday, March 23	He KnowsHebrews 5:14-16
Tuesday, March 24	Let Go and Let God1 Peter 5:6-11
Wednesday, March 25	AnswersPsalm 55:1-4, 16-23
Thursday, March 26	An Unbreakable BondRomans 8:31-39
Friday, March 27	Where Divinity and Humanity Meet ..Hebrews 2:9-18
Saturday, March 28	Where the Empty Get Their Fill2 Corinthians 1:3-7

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