

Willow Springs Worship March 7, 2021 LENT #3

FOCUS - In the patterns and glory of God's creation, and in God's commandments and promises, we are called to obtain deep wisdom. God's wisdom undermines our assumptions and takes us deeper than our efforts can lead us.

Thematic Slide Show

Welcome

Call to Worship

Adapted from Psalm 19

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Many: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

One: There is no speech . . . yet the voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.

Many: In the heavens you set a tent for the sun. . . . Its rising is from the end of the heavens, its circuit to the end of them; nothing is hid from its heat.

One: The law of the Lord is perfect . . . sure . . . clear . . . true and righteous.
The fear of the Lord is pure.

Many: God, clear us from hidden faults; teach us to trust you.

All: *Let the words and meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our Rock and Redeemer.*

We call out to you, as you call us to deeper wisdom.

Song

Prayer of Confession and Assurance

Many: Deep calls to deep.

We call to you from the depths of our hearts.

One: We confess when we have settled into sameness,
forgetting the rhythms of the heavens,
ignoring the rhythms of justice.

We confess when we have not looked up
into the eyes of a neighbor,
into your Word that still lives.

(Silence. Or name the forces that keep us from deep wisdom.)

Deep calls to deep.

You call to us from the depth of your love.

Many: Calling us to deep wisdom.

We come to you, God.

Song

Children's time

Scripture: Exodus 20:1-17, John 2:13-22

Sermon: Deep, Focused, Stirring in the Heart

Song

Sharing/Pastoral prayer

Offering our lives/song

Announcements MCC Fundraiser - "Dare to Serve" Zoom event on Friday, March 19 at 7:00 pm. Dares, goods or services, and cooperative auction items should be submitted to Ellen Davis-Zehr (asledz5@gmail.com)

Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale Online Auction - To participate go to the Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale web page ilreliefsale.org or to the Illinois Mennonite Relief Sale Facebook page and click on the Sullivanauctioneers.proxibid.com link to the auction.

April 1 – Maundy Thursday worship service.

April 4 – Easter Worship

SENDING BLESSING

Jesus expects God's people to have their lives focused on the LORD and living consistently from life in God. May we allow the LORD to create in us a deep, focused stirring for the Reign of God. Go into this week in search of deep wisdom. Go with humility. Amen.

* * *

Exodus 20:1-17

The Ten Commandments

20 And God spoke all these words:

² "I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery.

³ "You shall have no other gods before^[a] me.

⁴ "You shall not make for yourself an image in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷ "You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses his name.

⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God. On it you shall not do any work, neither you, nor your son or daughter, nor your male or female servant, nor your animals, nor any foreigner residing in your towns. ¹¹ For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but he rested on the seventh day. Therefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹² “Honor your father and your mother, so that you may live long in the land the Lord your God is giving you.

¹³ “You shall not murder.

¹⁴ “You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ “You shall not steal.

¹⁶ “You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male or female servant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.”

John 2:13-22

Jesus Clears the Temple Courts

¹³ When it was almost time for the Jewish Passover, Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple courts he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves, and others sitting at tables exchanging money. ¹⁵ So he made a whip out of cords, and drove all from the temple courts, both sheep and cattle; he scattered the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ To those who sold doves he said, “Get these out of here! Stop turning my Father’s house into a market!” ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it is written: “Zeal for your house will consume me.”^[a]

¹⁸ The Jews then responded to him, “What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do all this?”

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and I will raise it again in three days.”

²⁰ They replied, “It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you are going to raise it in three days?” ²¹ But the temple he had spoken of was his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples recalled what he had said. Then they believed the scripture and the words that Jesus had spoken.