

Church Families to pray for this week:

Dylan Johnston & Taylor Dehner

Ron & Mada Jones

Mary Keller

Lynn Kluegel

Nathan & Chelsea Johnston & Family

Kevin & Kim Kaufeld & Family

Calvin Klatt

Charles Knapp

Things I'd like to remember from today's service:

[illegible]

Weekly Scripture Readings

January 21, 2024

John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, instructed us to "stay in love with God" by worshipping, studying scripture, attending Communion, fasting and through public and private prayers. In order to help facilitate daily scripture reading and prayer, this insert contains readings for each day as well as a prayer for the week. The scriptures from Monday through Wednesday reference the readings for the prior Sunday, and Thursday through Saturday reference the scriptures for the following Sunday. We hope that these daily scripture readings and prayer will help you to deepen your relationship with God as we seek to live into our call to be disciples of Christ.

1 John 5:1-6 (NRSV)

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

John 15:9-17 (NRSV)

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Psalm 98 (NRSV)

A Psalm.

O sing to the LORD a new song,
for he has done marvelous things.
His right hand and his holy arm
have gained him victory.
The LORD has made known his victory;
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness
to the house of Israel.
All the ends of the earth have seen
the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
the world and those who live in it.
Let the floods clap their hands;
let the hills sing together for joy
at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming
to judge the earth.
He will judge the world with righteousness,
and the peoples with equity.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (NRSV)

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So, Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth....

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, January 22

Psalm 46
Genesis 12:1-9
1 Corinthians 7:17-24

Wednesday, January 24

Psalm 46
Proverbs 8:1-21
Mark 3:13-19a

Friday, January 26

Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 12:28-32
Revelation 2:12-17

Tuesday, January 23

Psalm 46
Genesis 45:25—46:7
Acts 5:33-42

Thursday, January 25

Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 3:23-29
Romans 9:6-18

Saturday, January 27

Psalm 111
Deuteronomy 13:1-5
Matthew 8:28—9:1

Prayer for the week: Holy and awesome God, your Son's authority is found in integrity and living truth, not the assertion of power over others. Open our imaginations to new dimensions of your love, and heal us of all that severs us from you and one another, that we may grow into the vision you unfold before us. Amen.

Next Sunday: The scripture readings for Sunday, January 28, are Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 and Mark 1:21-28. Next Sunday, the message "Yo-Yo: Extending Yourself" will be on the passage from Mark. Next Sunday is a contemporary service.

Questions to help you prepare: What does it mean that Jesus was teaching "with authority"? Why were they astounded by this? What are Jesus' actions in this story? Why do you think he does what he does? What does a yo-yo need to be to work? How does that relate to this story?

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