

SERMON NOTES. . .

“No Condemnation” Romans 8:1-4

1. “Therefore, there is now _____ condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.”
2. The apostle Paul is a lot more _____ than we might have first thought.
3. In Christ Jesus, you do not need to _____ God’s wrath.
4. Like the prodigal’s father in the gospel, _____ is just as anxious to throw His arms around you and welcome you.
5. The condemnation that a Christian feels does not come from God but it comes from _____, the accuser.
6. If we are deceived into thinking that we are not what God says we are, then we are going to keep on _____ that way.
7. The challenge we face is not just to say we believe God’s Word but that we _____ like it.
8. When we are foolish and fail, our tendency is to turn away from God in _____.
9. Paul began his teaching in Romans 7 proclaiming the _____ news that in our natural state, every person is guilty of sin.
10. In our natural state we get what we _____.
11. The _____ news is that God has made a way for us to come to Christ. That is His desire for everyone but not everyone will come.
12. The whole human race is on death row, justly condemned for breaking God’s law. Without Jesus we would have no _____ at all.

Welcome to West Prairie Lutheran Church!

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

40041 150th Ave., P.O. Box 9, Leland, IA 50453

Steve Bang, pastor

Please sign the attendance sheets located at the end of each pew.

If you are a visitor, please include your mailing address.

We invite you to join us again!

8:30 a.m. — April 2, 2017

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Worship Service with Holy Communion

All who are baptized in the Christian faith and have accepted Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior are invited to celebrate the Lord’s Supper.

Prelude

Pastoral Greeting

Please stand if you are able.

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness..... page 77

Opening Hymn, *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* LBW #250

Kyrie..... page 78

Hymn of Praise *This is the Feast*..... page 81

Prayer of the Day

(All) Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have failed to be Your messengers of forgiveness and hope in the world. Renew us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may follow Your commands and proclaim Your reign of love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

You may be seated.

First Lesson: Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Valley of Dry Bones

The hand of the LORD was on me, and He brought me out by the Spirit of the LORD and set me in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me back and forth among them, and I saw a great many bones on the floor of the valley, bones that were very dry. He asked me, “Son of man, can these bones live?”

I said, “Sovereign LORD, you alone know.”

Then He said to me, "Prophesy to these bones and say to them, 'Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD! This is what the Sovereign LORD says to these bones: I will make breath enter you, and you will come to life. I will attach tendons to you and make flesh come upon you and cover you with skin; I will put breath in you, and you will come to life. Then you will know that I am the LORD.'"

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I was prophesying, there was a noise, a rattling sound, and the bones came together, bone to bone. I looked, and tendons and flesh appeared on them and skin covered them, but there was no breath in them.

Then He said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to it, 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: Come, breath, from the four winds and breathe into these slain, that they may live.'" So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath entered them; they came to life and stood up on their feet—a vast army.

Then He said to me: "Son of man, these bones are the people of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up and our hope is gone; we are cut off.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: 'This is what the Sovereign LORD says: My people, I am going to open your graves and bring you up from them; I will bring you back to the land of Israel. Then you, My people, will know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves and bring you up from them. I will put my Spirit in you and you will live, and I will settle you in your own land. Then you will know that I the LORD have spoken, and I have done it, declares the LORD.'"

Here ends the reading.

Psalm 130 (responsively)

L: Out of the depths I cry to You, LORD;

C: Lord, hear my voice.

L: Let your ears be attentive

C: to my cry for mercy.

L: If You, LORD, kept a record of sins,

C: Lord, who could stand?

L: But with You there is forgiveness,

C: so that we can, with reverence, serve You.

Benediction page 97

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn, *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*LBW #107

Postlude

Pastor: Steve Bang

Pianist: Melissa Phillips

Lectionary: Julie Reimann

Ushers: Gene and Jodi Fjeld

Acolyte: Madison Branstad

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today...

7 p.m. Youth Group

Wednesday, April 5...

6 p.m. Supper @ Sion followed by 7 p.m. Lenten worship

Thursday, April 6...

7 p.m. Naomi Circle w/Lori Jacobs; Sarah Circle w/Shirley Hanson

Sunday, April 9

8:30 a.m. Palm Sunday Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Fellowship

9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

Opera duets and arias recital with Quiliano Anderson (friend of Candy Johnson), Jacqueline L McCurdy and Bryan Stanley this Tuesday, April 4th at 7 pm at Waldorf University, Odvin Hagen Music Hall in Forest City. Performing excerpts from *Così fan tutte*, *L'elisir d'amore* and *La Traviata*. Admission is free.

Prayer List — Health concerns for Jonie Bang, Brock Walden, Denise Holst, Robert Olsen, Elaine Ritz, Carver Moffat, Marlys Haugen, Mike Haack, Dale Zingg, Dorothy Kall, Ben Charlson, Monte Branstad, Blanche Durby, Eldora Reil; Angela Haugen serving in the military. All prayer requests can be submitted to Pastor Steve @641-590-7894; or leave a message on the church answering system @641-567-3733.

So they took away the stone. Then Jesus looked up and said, “Father, I thank You that You have heard me. I knew that You always hear Me, but I said this for the benefit of the people standing here, that they may believe that You sent Me.”

When He had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out!” The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face.

Jesus said to them, “Take off the grave clothes and let him go.”

Therefore many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary, and had seen what Jesus did, believed in Him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: *Praise to You, O Christ*.....page 83

The Sermon: Pastor Steve Bang

“No Condemnation” Romans 8:1-4

Hymn, *Jesus, Refuge of the Weary*LBW #93

Nicene Creed.....page 84

Prayer

Congregational Response: Hear my prayer.

Sharing of the peace.

Offering

Please stand.

Offertory, *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*.....page 86

Pastor: Let us pray,

Congregation: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what You have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of Your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of Him who offered Himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

The Great Thanksgivingpage 88

The Words of Institution.....page 89

The Lord’s Prayerpage 91

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymns Grey Hymn Book #277, 276, 281

Post-Communion Canticle..... page 92 & 93

Prayerpage 94

L: I wait for the LORD, my whole being waits,

C: and in His word I put my hope.

L: I wait for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning,

C: more than watchmen wait for the morning.

L: Israel, put your hope in the LORD,

C: for with the LORD is unfailing love and with Him is full redemption.

L: He Himself will redeem Israel

C: from all their sins.

Second Lesson: Romans 8:1-11

Life Through the Spirit

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit who gives life has set you free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do because it was weakened by the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh to be a sin offering. And so He condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fully met in us, who do not live according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. The mind governed by the flesh is death, but the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace. The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God’s law, nor can it do so. Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of His Spirit who lives in you.

Here ends the reading.

The Gospel: John 11:1-45

Response: *Glory to You, O Lord*..... page 83

Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one You love is sick."

When He heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that Lazarus was sick, He stayed where He was two more days, and then He said to His disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

"But Rabbi," they said, "a short while ago the Jews there tried to stone You, and yet You are going back?"

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Anyone who walks in the daytime will not stumble, for they see by this world's light. It is when a person walks at night that they stumble, for they have no light."

After He had said this, He went on to tell them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep; but I am going there to wake him up."

His disciples replied, "Lord, if he sleeps, he will get better." Jesus had been speaking of His death, but His disciples thought He meant natural sleep.

So then He told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead, and for your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

Then Thomas (also known as Didymus) said to the rest of the disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with Him."

On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet Him, but Mary stayed at home.

"Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if You had been here, my brother would not have died. But I know that even now God will give You whatever You ask."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in Me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in Me will never die. Do you believe this?"

"Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

After she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary aside. "The Teacher is here," she said, "and is asking for you." When Mary heard this, she got up quickly and went to Him. Now Jesus had not yet entered the village, but was still at the place where Martha had met Him. When the Jews who had been with Mary in the house, comforting her, noticed how quickly she got up and went out, they followed her, supposing she was going to the tomb to mourn there.

When Mary reached the place where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet and said, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come along with her also weeping, He was deeply moved in spirit and troubled. "Where have you laid him?" He asked.

"Come and see, Lord," they replied.

Jesus wept.

Then the Jews said, "See how He loved him!"

But some of them said, "Could not He who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Jesus, once more deeply moved, came to the tomb. It was a cave with a stone laid across the entrance. "Take away the stone," He said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

Then Jesus said, "Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"