

Family Information

Today's Sermon Title

The Upside Down Christian Life

Theme Passage

Acts 20:35

Thoughts to Consider

- 1) What areas of the Christian life stand out to you as vastly different from non Christians?
- 2) Do you feel like you live counter culturally?
- 3) What have you given to others or to God this week?

Potluck

August 4th - Sunday Fellowship Potluck immediately following worship service in Room E41 & E42. This is a Great opportunity to spend family time together! Bring your favorite dish to share. Sign up Sheet on the bulletin board for your reference.

School Supplies

We will offer school supplies again this year – to the neighbor children who come for Bible classes, to regular Clothing Closet shoppers who inquire, and to any members who have a need and let us know. We still have 20 backpacks from last year and so are not asking for those

The supplies needed this year are:

24 pack crayons
#2 Pencils / pencil sharpeners
Glue sticks (not bottles)
Pink erasers
Pocket folders
Loose leaf wide ruled notebook paper
Colored pencils
Blunt tip scissors
Pencil bags

**These items are listed in relative order of need. We expect to serve possibly 30 children; and so asking for whatever you are able/willing to contribute. The collection tub will be set up in the foyer, or you may give directly to: Vicki Cowans or Robbie McVicker. Thank you Northland Family for your generosity and support.

Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Ghana Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Ghana Worship Service	10:30 am
Sunday Spanish Worship	3:00 pm
Wednesday Evening	7:00 pm

Minister: Caleb Dillinger

Elders: Roy Estep, Mike Evans, Jeff McVicker, Jim Robbins

Deacons: Lynn Champney, Perry Coate, Glenn Culler, Darrell Estep, Jack Evans, John Lindsay, Don Milnor, Art Silva

Spanish Ministry: Elmer Renderos

Calendar

July

Singing At Willow Brook Village 10:30 am

August

TGIF At Building

Teen Nerf War At Church

Singing At Willow Brook Home 10:30am

TGIF At Building

Canoeing at Trapper Johns After Church

Baby Shower

Ladies of Northland, join us Sunday, August 11th for Micah Evans baby shower at 2:00 p.m. in room E41 & E42! She is registered at Target, Buy Buy Baby, and Amazon.

For The Month of July

Invitation/ Responses: Jeff McVicker

Foyer Duty: Jack Evans

Greeters: Bobby and Emily Graham

Announcements: Glenn Culler

Communion Servers

Frank Agyei	Patrick Boateng
Lynn Champney	Isaac Kyeremateng
James Milnor	Yaw Odoom
Phil Stafa	Randy Yates

Contribution

Last Week	Average YTD
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General: \$5407 \$5249

Designated: \$205 \$173

Northland
Church of Christ



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July 28, 2019
Volume 28, Number 30

Taking Up Our Cross

(& Portia's Test)

Then Jesus said to his disciples, Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. - Matthew 16:24

Jesus' call to take up our cross and to deny ourselves sounds fearsome, yet he is simply calling us to set aside worldly ways and worldly thinking, so that God may give us eternal blessings that nothing can take away. Taking up our cross means to fix our eyes on eternal things, to realize that everything we have comes entirely by God's grace, and to seek God with all of our hearts - *For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. - Matthew 16:25*

In one of Shakespeare's plays, Portia's parents have left her a sizeable inheritance, and she makes anyone who wants to marry her take an unusual test. She sets out three boxes, one made of gold, one made of silver, and one made of lead. Each has an inscription, and a potential bridegroom must pick one. If he chooses wrongly, he must never return. First, a wealthy prince comes and picks the gold box, which is labelled, 'Who chooseth me shall gain what many men desire'. Yet inside he finds a skull, with a note reading, 'Many a man his life has sold but my outside to behold. Gilded tombs do worms infold.' He indeed was seeking what many people desire: outward things and outward appearances that cannot give our souls life - *What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? - Matthew 16:26*

Later a vain prince comes, looks over the boxes and chooses the silver one, which reads, 'Who chooseth me shall get as much as he deserves.' Inside he finds a fool's head, with a note, 'Some there be that shadows kiss, such have but a shadow's bliss ... I will ever be your head.' As Shakespeare says, he came with one fool's head and leaves with two. Similarly, in Jesus we already have much more than we could ever deserve, and all we can do is to praise God humbly.

Finally Bassanio, a man who loves Portia for her gentleness and her intelligence, takes Portia's test. Portia has come to love Bassanio, so she hopes that he will choose well. Turning down the glitter of the gold and silver boxes, Bassanio reads the writing on the lead box, 'Who chooseth me must give and hazard all he hath.' He just wants to be with Portia, and admits he doesn't deserve even that, so he would gladly give up everything else.

For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done. - Matthew 16:27

Inside the lead box Bassanio finds a portrait of Portia, and both of them rejoice that they will be together to face the times ahead, both good and bad. Likewise, Jesus rejoices when we simply give our hearts to him and follow him, so that he may walk with us on the path ahead whatever it may hold, and that he may give us the priceless gift of knowing our Heavenly Father.

- Mark Garner

He Is With Thee

I am with Thee! He hath said it,
In His truth and tender grace;
Sealed the promise, grandly spoken,
With how many a mighty token,
Of His love and faithfulness.

He is with thee! in thy dwelling,
Shielding thee from fear of ill;
All thy burdens kindly bearing,
For thy dear ones gently caring,
Guarding, keeping, blessing still.

He is with thee! with thee always,
All the nights and all the days;
Never failing, never frowning,
With His loving-kindness crowning,
Tuning all thy life to praise.

He is with thee! thine own master,
Leading, loving to the end;
Brightening joy and lightening sorrow,
All today, yet more tomorrow,
King and Savior, Lord and friend.

- Frances Havergal (1836-1879)

All That Is

The sky above, the earth and ocean's mighty depths,
The orbs presiding over day and over night,
The winds and tempests, lightnings, showers of rain and clouds,
The polar stars, the star of evening, heat and snow,
The fountains, frosts, precious veins of ore and streams,

One in their might one both the Father and the Son,
And that one splendor generated by one light
With all the Godhead's plentitude of brightness shone.
In God one undivided being operates,
And by one power was created all that is,

The rugged cliffs and level plains and mountain dells,
Wild beasts, the fowl of air and reptiles, all that swim,
The beasts of burden, cattle, oxen, mammoth brutes,
The flowers and shrubs, the vines, the herbs and woodland groves,
All plants that shed their fragrance, plants that food supply.

- Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (AD 348-413)

In God's Wisdom He Made Them All

This summer, some of Northland's members are writing about things that God created, and what they tell us about our Heavenly Father and about our walk with him. This week, Ashley Dillinger writes about cats and what they tell us about God.

God's Purrfect Healing Psalms 147:3

Anyone who knows me, knows that I have a cat. You also probably know that her name is River, she is gray (my favorite color), and that I have no less than 165 pictures of her in my phone that I am ready to show any passing stranger. What most of you may not know is the story behind how River came into my life. It's a complicated story with many twists and turns, but the most important part of that story is that one day she was taken away from me and I thought I would never see her again. Thankfully, the story didn't end there. God knew I needed River in my life, and He provided.

God used River to help heal my heart. Did you know that cats have actual healing powers? When cats purr, the vibrations are within the range of 20-140 Hz. This range is known to be medically therapeutic for many illnesses and ailments. The cat's purr can even help the healing of bones, infections, and swelling. Isn't that amazing? God created this tiny little creature and gave it healing powers.

When I am feeling sick, physically or emotionally, River will lay on me and purr. It is in those moments that I see the healing powers of God. Psalms 147:3 reminds us that "[God] heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds." It is through River that I am reminded that God is the ultimate healer and comforter.

I pray that God heals you when you are brokenhearted and bandages your physical wounds. And I pray that your eyes be opened to seeing God's healing hand in your life. Amen.

- Ashley Dillinger

