

Family Information

Today's Sermon Title

Be Like Jesus

Theme Passage

John 13: 1-15

Winter Sunday Morning Bible Class

February - God's Transcendence: Who Is God? (this will be a prelude to this Summer's study comparing John & other religions)

Children's Classes

We are looking for help on Wednesday nights with the 4th, 5th and 6th grade class. Any amount of time is fine. Please see Tara Bell or Patricia Stevens.

We are also looking for help with the young children's classes on Sunday during worship. Could you teach/play with the kids for one month out of the year? Materials are provided. Please see Hilary Johnson.

Contribution Statements

The contribution statements for 2018 are available in the church office. Please see Pam Estep or Glenn Culler to pick up your statement.

Intimacy With God Thru The Psalms

Come explore the closeness of our God in this Spring Sunday morning Ladies Bible Class starting March 3rd at 9:30 a.m. in Room E31. All participants are welcome to share their favorite Psalm that assures us our God is near! Various women from the Body will facilitate the 13-week class. All are welcome to facilitate and join the class. See Karen Susenna or Robbie McVicker for further details.

Calendar

February

1	TGIF 6:30pm
3	Services At Willow Brook
6	Singing At Willow Brook Home 10:30am
9	Euchre Tournament 5-9pm
10	Single Sisters Lunch
15	TGIF 6:30pm

Women's Retreat Vision Setting and Planning

The second annual ladies retreat is scheduled for May 3rd-4th at the Heartland Retreat Center. Last year was a real highpoint of fellowship and learning and sharing for the ladies at Northland. Would you like to help set a vision and a direction for this year's Retreat? Come to Karen Susenna's house on Saturday, Feb. 16th from 10 a.m. to noon to brainstorm and kickoff Retreat planning. All are welcome! See Karen for more details.

For The Month of January

Invitation/ Responses: Jim Robbins

Foyer Duty: Jack Evans

Greeters: Jeff and Robbie McVicker

Communion Servers

Jake Bowman	Perry Coate
Jack Evans	Joshua Evans
Michael Evans	Mike Evans
John Lindsay	Paul Silva

Contribution

	Last Week	Average YTD
General:	\$7215	\$4472
Designated:	\$370	\$170

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

The End Of All Things...

The End Of All Things Is Near, Therefore . . .

The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray. - 1 Peter 4:7

Many of us have probably wondered what we would do if we knew that the world would come to an end very soon. Yet, whatever promises or changes or urgent actions may come to mind, Peter reminds us first of all to do something more important, more basic, before we do anything else - he advises us to clear our minds and pray to God for guidance and understanding. Without this close connection with our Father in heaven, we will act aimlessly, we will follow our own whims and agendas, and indeed we will forget God's patient call to walk by faith in the love and mercy of Jesus—*Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. - 1 Peter 4:8*

Moreover, Peter reminds us that the end of all things is already near; for in this world our time is short, yet eternity lies just ahead. So he reminds us first of all to pray with sober minds, so that our guidance may come from God instead from ourselves, and then to remember above all to love one another, just as we are; for indeed all of us need God's help and care every moment—*If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. - Peter 4:11*

When Haley's comet approached the earth in 1910, some scientists announced that they had detected dangerous gases in the comet's tail. Moreover, they predicted that on May 19 of that year, the comet's tail would come so close that these deadly toxins would be released in the earth's atmosphere, which led to widespread fear around the world. In Paris, people were advised to obtain oxygen tanks, and there was panic and havoc when there weren't nearly enough for everyone. In the United States, numerous businesses marketed 'anti-comet' pills, 'anti-comet' umbrellas, and other such useless things. In Naples, Italy, many decided that they might as well enjoy themselves, and 300,000 gathered for a large outdoor concert on the night before.

Instead of responding like this, God reminds us that he has more than enough grace and compassion for everyone. We don't need worldly remedies or human methods for our deepest needs, for God's ways and thoughts are far higher than ours. And we don't have to give up and settle for a few brief-lived worldly pleasures, for God gives us imperishable blessings that will give lasting peace and joy to our souls.

Guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long. - Psalm 25:4-5

God is near with everyone who puts all our trust and our hope in him, and his words and his promises and his compassion endure forever. - Mark Garner



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Thoughts On The Works Of Providence

Almighty, in these wond'rous works of thine,
What Pow'r, what Wisdom, and what Goodness shine!
And are thy wonders, Lord, by men explored,
And yet creating glory unadored!

Creation smiles in various beauty gay,
While day to night, and night succeeds to day:
That Wisdom, which attends Jehovah's ways,
Shines most conspicuous in the solar rays . . .

Hail, smiling morn, that from the orient main
Ascending dost adorn the heav'nly plain!
So rich, so various are thy beauteous dyes,
That spread through all the circuit of the skies,
That, full of thee, my soul in rapture soars,
And thy great God, the cause of all adores.
O'er beings infinite his love extends,
His Wisdom rules them, and his Pow'r defends . . .

Infinite Love where'er we turn our eyes
Appears: this every creature's wants supplies;
This most is heard in Nature's constant voice,
This makes the morn, and this the eve rejoice;
This bids the fost'ring rains and dews descend
To nourish all, to serve one general end . . .
To him, whose works arrayed with mercy shine,
What songs should rise, how constant, how divine!

- Phillis Wheatley (excerpts) (1753-1784)

The Bread & The Cup Of The Lord

Over the past few weeks, some of Northland's members have been writing about what the Lord's Supper means to them, and about their thoughts as we take it together. This week, Steve Carver shares his thoughts.

A Memorial of God's Love and Grace

Communion and what it represents, the love and grace of God, means all the world to me, and in increasing measure the older I get. That's because I am a bewildering conundrum, a living oxymoron.

In my better moments, I am clay being molded in the hands of the Master Potter to be a useful vessel - a loving, submissive servant. In other moments, I am a rebellious, self-absorbed, knucklehead ... a broken vessel, a sinner (Rom 7:15-25).

Because of Christ's love, displayed in his life, death, and resurrection, I am released from guilt, and have peace and joy despite my brokenness. When the Father looks at me, he no longer sees me as a knucklehead, he sees Christ, and the useful vessel his Son's sacrifice is making of me. In my struggle to overcome sin and be more Christ-like, I no longer rely on my own feeble strength but on the Holy Spirit he has placed within me. Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift of grace!

Sometimes the greatest distance information has to travel is between the head and heart. I've understood that God's love and grace, memorialized in communion, has its ultimate completion in the next life. But it's only since Sandy's passing that this has become especially meaningful for me. Because of his sacrifice, the separation of death is only temporary. I imagine one day standing hand in hand with her and others, surrounding God's throne in adoration.

To adapt a popular song, "Surrounded by Your glory, What will our hearts feel, Will we dance for you Jesus, Or in awe of You be still, Will we stand in your presence, Or to our knees will we fall, Will we sing hallelujah, Will we be able to speak at all, I can only imagine..."

- Steve Carver,