

NEXT STEP: STUDY & SHARE

READINGS

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (v11)

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness & brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior & Lord, who lives & reigns with you & the Holy Spirit, one God, now & forever. Amen.

SERMON TEXT- Romans 10:8b-13

^{8b}“The word is near you, on your lips & in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord & believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰For one believes with the heart & so is justified, & one confesses with the mouth & so is saved. ¹¹The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹²For there is no distinction between Jew & Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all & is generous to all who call on him. ¹³For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

LISTENING TO . . .

GOD- *Christian life is rooted in the Father, Son, & Holy Spirit*

1. How does the Lord’s Prayer underscore the nearness St. Paul claims in v8b?
See Deuteronomy 4:7; Matthew 6:9-15; Luke 11:2-4; Romans 5:1-2, 8:15-17; Small Catechism: Lord’s Prayer; SC available bookofconcord.org
2. Consider Jesus’ temptation (*Luke 4:1-13*) & his prayer in the garden (*Luke 22:[3, 31] 39-53*). How do the two act as a pair, book-ending his earthly ministry (note what happens just before his Temptation, *Luke 3:1-22, cf. 23:46*)? Hint: look for themes, parallel ideas, inversions, reversals, similarities, extensions, metaphors, actions, vocabulary, grammar, etc.

EACH OTHER- *Sharing & growing with our brothers & sisters in Christ*

3. St. Paul connects confessing & believing as two aspects of one’s single faith, which is firm & active (vv9-10). List at least 5 ways you are weak & strong in each aspect. If you struggle, review *SC: Table of Duties*. Note- confessing includes speech, not just good behavior (& no moralizing opinions at all). *See Luke 9:26, 12:11-12; Romans 10:14-17; 1 Corinthians 12:3; 1 Peter 3:15*
4. How can you strengthen each aspect? What do you need to repent of in your weakness? How would personal, individual confession with your pastor help? *See SC: Office of the Keys; don’t overlook St. Peter’s Forgiveness & Healing service, Wednesday, March 9, at 7:00 PM.*

NEIGHBORS- *Bearing fruit for those not yet our brothers & sisters*

5. In St. Paul’s day, the division was between Jews, the people of the Old Testament promise, & Greeks, a.k.a. everyone else in their civilized culture. Who in your local culture is treated as beyond the boundaries of your congregation’s care & concern? What neighborhoods have a historically distant, prejudiced, or even antagonistic connection to your congregation’s work in joining Jesus on his mission? Who would your congregation be ashamed to have as members? Finding these answers may require more honesty & soul-searching than we are used to.
6. How will the practices of everyday discipleship (daily Bible reading & prayer; weekly worship & offerings; learning to speak with & care for “pre-Christians” around you, doing little good deeds of kindness & mercy; *cf. #3, 4*) help you stay joined to Jesus on his mission? How might Jesus start using you to expand his kingdom into those areas you answered in #5?

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First Sunday in Lent
Series: Repent!

03.06.22
Rev. Jared Stillions, STS

Call L-O-R-D

*We think breaking bread with the world's power will satisfy;
calling upon God's power rescues us.*

-Notes-

KEY VERSE: For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord
shall be saved.” (v13)

-NEXT STEPS MEMORY VERSE-

One does not live by bread alone, but by every word
that comes from the mouth of God. (*Matthew 4:4*)

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