

Boulevard United Methodist Church



Simple lines like "welcome to the Hotel California" or "be thou my vision" can catapult us to places once central in our experience. They can bring to mind friends who are no longer with us, places we have visited, and events that have shaped us. A few words coupled with a catchy melody can be burned into our memories like tattoos. Psalm 34 functions something like that for me. Each poetic line is like a line from a song I once knew.

- Paul O. Myrhe

October 28, 2018

On the Cover: "Jesus healing blind Bartimaeus" by Johann Heinrich Stöver.

THE VIRGINIA CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
✦ *where disciples are lifelong learners influencing others to serve* ✦

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23rd Sunday after Pentecost
4:00 pm at 1837 W Broad St.

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Call to Worship Psalm 34

At all times I will bless the Lord, whose praise shall ever be in my mouth.

I will glory in the Lord; let the humble hear and rejoice.

Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; let us exalt God's name together!

**I sought the Lord, who answered me,
and delivered me out of all my terror.**

Look upon the Lord and be radiant, and let not your faces be ashamed.

**The poor cried out, and the Lord heard,
and saved them out of all their troubles.**

The angel of the Lord encompasses the God-fearing, and the Lord will deliver them.

**Taste and see that the Lord is good;
happy are those who take refuge in God!**

Hymn O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go

Time with Children

Hymn Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior vv. 1-2 351

Prayer

Interlude

Scripture Mark 10:46-52

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Hymn Be Thou My Vision 451

Offering Tithes & Gifts

Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Song I Won't Back Down

Dismissal with Blessing

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God...

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus...

And so,

in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit on us, and pour out your Spirit on these gifts...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER

NURTURE

caring for one another and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for those grieving the deaths of Dot Hechler, Rita Callis, and Deanna Spain. Also on our prayer list: Nancy Tate. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address. *Please consider incorporating these names into a prayer over a meal this coming week or into your daily prayer time.*

CHILDREN'S CHURCH for infants - 5 year olds begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). They rejoin us for Communion. Ms. LaRonda is an experienced childcare provider currently employed by Grace Covenant Child Development Center.

A BOOK STUDY begins this coming Tuesday at 6:30 pm. *Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus* will serve as the springboard for conversation. Participants can expect four one-hour long gatherings here at 1837 W Broad as well as optional community engagement opportunities. E-mail lauren.leggett@gmail.com to register. It's not too late!

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

IN THE AFTERMATH of Michael and Florence, the United Methodist Committee on Relief is a major player. We hear from the Alabama-West Florida Conference, as well as from the North Carolina and South Carolina Conferences, that disaster relief kits and money are what they need, which UMCOR can distribute. Between now and the end of the month, either tag on online gift "mission" or make out a check to Boulevard UMC memo-lined "hurricanes".

WITNESS

telling our stories, offering expressions of faith, being Christ-like

{Together}

FINANCIAL GIVING BEARS WITNESS to a caring and sharing God, as do our prayers, presence, and acts of service.

	Ministry Costs	Your Contributions
September 2018	10,030	7,412

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Mark 10:46-52

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." ⁵²Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.



Storefront Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

AND THE LORD HEARD - Psalm 34

Sometimes I need someone else's words to crawl inside of and be for a while.

That is, in part, why I am a fan of written prayer -- and why I reject the suggestion that written prayer is less (less authentic, less spiritual, less holy) than the spontaneous kind. Both forms have their place.

There are days I need someone else's words to crawl inside of and be for a while. If someone can just get the conversation started or give me a cue, chances are, I can find my footing; or my voice, as it were.

The Psalter is a collection of written prayer. It gives us something to pray while we're searching for the substance of our own testimony and on occasion we realize that the two are nearly one and the same.

If the psalm prays, you pray; if it laments, you lament; if it exults, you rejoice; if it hopes, you hope; if it fears, you fear. Everything written here is a mirror for us. Augustine of Hippo said that in the 5th century. It is solid guidance for creatures of the 21st.

The poetry, prayer, and longings collected by the Psalter are important. Those responsible for the shaping of worship services can fail to account for why it is that we open the pages of ancient Israel's prayerbook and repeat after them -- Psalmists of old, the Hebrews, Jesus, our saints.

The "them" after whom we repeat is richly layered. I wish I knew which was my Grammy's favorite Psalm. It is edifying in some small way to know that John Wesley treasured the 145th (v.9 in particular). While Jesus of the gospels favors Exodus and Isaiah, he speaks the words of the Psalms even more often. It is a holy thing to take heart and find courage where and as he did.

"In the Psalms, no emotional terrain goes uncovered (G. Jarrell)." When we stumble across the one that wishes ill upon the enemy or one wherein the triumphalism approaches arrogance, it is important to remember that these are human emotions. We are being schooled in the faith journeys of our siblings.

The full range of humanity on display in the Psalter does not diminish it. There may come a day when you need to crawl inside one and be for a while... Long enough to find your footing, to begin to hear your own voice in the presence of the One who steadfastly, lovingly, hears.