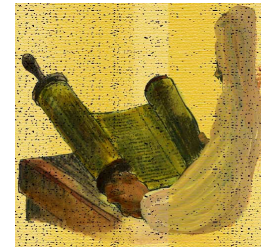


WITNESS

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

FOR THE LOVE of baby Ava, whom we have not yet met, we are preparing to purchase a gift (or gifts) from LaRonda Malone's registry. LaRonda has cared for our children and this is an opportunity for our congregation to bless her and as she welcomes one of her own. If you would like to contribute, please envelope cash or memo-line a check "Ava".

Boulevard United Methodist Church on Broad



Perhaps the most disturbing part of this passage is that Jesus does not do any miracles in his hometown. Why should they not receive a little benefit from Jesus' ministry?

Do we feel entitled to the work of Jesus among us? Do we think that Jesus should do ministry for the church first?

- R.A. Reese

February 3, 2019

4th Sunday after the Epiphany
4:00 pm at 1837 W Broad St.

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Opening Words

It is good.

It is good.

To be in a house of the Lord.

To be in a house of the Lord.

One more time.

One more time.

Hymn *Gather Us In 1-2* 2236

Time with Children

Hymn *Gather Us In 3-4*

Prayer

Scripture Luke 4:14-21

Music

Scripture Luke 4:21-30

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Hymn *Grace Greater Than Our Sin* 365

Offering

Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Hymn *City of God*

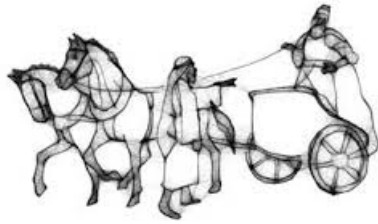
Dismissal with Blessing

Luke 4:14-21

¹⁴Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country.

¹⁵He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

¹⁶When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read,¹⁷and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.” ²⁰And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”



Storefront Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

NAAMAN THE SYRIAN - Luke 4:27

The grace of God -- if it is, in fact, the grace of God -- should tick us off once in a while.

Grace goes to places that don't much matter to us. Grace finds people from whom we would just as soon see good things withheld.

Grace leapfrogs over our assessments of where and what the need is. It breezes by our values. It is as ornery as the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit is ornery. So it's ornery.

Speaking of ornery, Jesus drops four names from the Hebrew Bible while he is preaching – the setting of our texts for this Sunday – and he for sure rubs folks the wrong way. Elijah helped a widow in Zarephath and Elisha saved Naaman the Syrian, he reminds them.

Everyone in the synagogue knows this to be true. They take offense because Jesus, grace embodied, goes out of his way to emphasize the identity of the two on the receiving end.

"There were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah... yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian (vv.25-27)." Yeah, that was never going to go over well.

About Naaman the Syrian: he is a sermon unto himself. His encounter with Israel, rather, is a treasure trove. Grace finds him. God's people are vessels for what he can't get elsewhere. When all is said and done, his skin is healed (2 Kings 5:14) and so is the relationship between the nations (6:23). [Look](#) him up.

Of course, the reason that grace doesn't irritate us *all* the time is because it can be piercingly sweet (a child's unexpected apology or a partner's sacrificial gift).

*Also, with a little time, study, and spiritual maturity, we tend to see something of Naaman in ourselves. And then we really thank God that grace is...*grace*.

Luke 4:21-30

²¹Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." ²²All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" ²³He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" ²⁴And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. ²⁵But the truth is, there were many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months, and there was a severe famine over all the land; ²⁶yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to a widow at Zarephath in Sidon. ²⁷There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha, and none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." ²⁸When they heard this, all in the synagogue were filled with rage. ²⁹They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. ³⁰But he passed through the midst of them and went on his way.

NURTURE

caring for one another and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Grayson Foy, Nancy Tate, Bishop Sharma Lewis, Tammy Estep & David Outten, Jim & his family, and Nancy Tate. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

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.

THE WORD EPIPHANY suggests "a making known" of something or someone. For us, Epiphany is both a day and a season. The identity of the Jesus and is being made known to us as we follow him from birth into the beginning of his public ministry.

GIVING GROWS YOU and us.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
January 1 - 26	\$12,089	\$4,222

We're celebrating a new door for our storage and children's area. This was a planned expense. The door provides noise cancelation and visibility.

A WORKING CALENDAR (expect additions and adjustments):

February 17	6 th Sunday after Epiphany	Commitment Sunday Rev. Katie Gooch preaching
February 23-26	Special Session of the General Conference of The United Methodist Church	St. Louis, Missouri
February 24	7 th Sunday after Epiphany	Guest Musician, Jim Bennett
March 3	Transfiguration Sunday	
March 6	Ash Wednesday	Imposition of ashes time TBD
March 10	1 st Sunday in Lent	
March 17	2 nd Sunday in Lent	
March 24	3 rd Sunday in Lent	
March 31	4 th Sunday in Lent	
April 7	5 th Sunday in Lent	
April 14	Liturgy of the Palms Liturgy of the Passion	
April 18	Maundy Thursday	6:00 pm service at 1837 W Broad St.; childcare offered
April 21	Easter Sunday	Sunrise Service at Hollywood Cemetery

Our 4pm service on Easter Sunday crosses paths (almost literally) with Monument Avenue's Easter Parade. For that reason, a change to our regular service time that weekend is under consideration.