

Boulevard United Methodist Church on Broad



“The image Jesus invokes is both fierce and vulnerable. The hen iconically holds together the tensions of the prophetic tradition as a whole.”

- David Schnasa Jacobsen

March 17, 2019

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Second Sunday in Lent
4:00 pm at 1837 W Broad St.

Greeting Rev. Drew Willson

Call to Worship Psalm 27:1-4

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Though a host encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;

though war arise against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the Lord, that I will seek after:

That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

Hymn *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go*

Time with Children

Psalter Psalm 27:5-14 758

Call to Prayer *Wait for the Lord*

Prayer

The Peace

Music

Scripture Lesson Luke 13:31-35

Sermon Rev. Rachel G. May

Hymn *Stand By Me*

Offering

Prayer

The Lord's Supper

Lead me, guide me, along the way,
For if you lead me I cannot stray.
Lord let me walk each day with Thee.
Lead me, oh Lord lead me.

Hymn *Bless Now O God the Journey*

Benediction

Luke 13:31-35

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' ³²He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." '



Storefront Inklings

with Rev. Rachel

!THE STRONGHOLD - Psalm 27:1

Our Psalm does the thing that I find myself wishing that the universe would *stop* doing. It manhandles us. Pardon my language. It jerks us around.

It really is all over the place, this Psalm. Is this a sacred text about confidence or about despair? Are we telling folk about God, here, or asking God to hear us? It is tempting to cut verses so as to give the thing a theme.

Between the first and the seventh verse, something happens.

*The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid*

*Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!*

Which is it?

This afternoon I came across Richard Stern's reflections. [Biblical commentary does not always take me to church, but today it did.] He writes:

"It seems that the first and second sections might ideally be reversed. It is a more compelling order...moving from doubt to certainty, dark to light. It is how sermons *ought* to work, how faith *ought* to work, how life *ought* to work, but they rarely cooperate in so tidy a fashion."

Psalm 27 is true to human experience -- not to our desire to be moved or inspired -- not to my wish that the Scriptures would serve up a diversion.

Richard Stern again: "There is some real wisdom in the way in which we have received this psalm."

We like the Psalm go from appreciative to critical, energized to depressed, all in to barely hanging on...we have parts that if someone would only edit them out, there would be a clear, strong theme.

Ah, but life and life together unfold in not so tidy a fashion. The roller coaster ride is real. As is the One who rides with us and so becomes our stronghold.

NURTURE

caring for one another and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for the United Methodist Church, 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 years of age begins after the children's moment (approximately 4:15). They rejoin us for Communion. Our childcare provider is employed by Grace Covenant Child Development Center.

GIVING GROWS YOU and us.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
March 1 - 9	\$2,723	\$3,317

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

MARCH IS FOR FOOD—for feeding people and for the relationship between food and faith. During Lent (mid-March to mid-April), we are collecting funds for those doing the hard work of feeding our neighbors and improving access to fresh food in our city. To contribute to this collection, make a check out to Boulevard and write “food” in the memo line. Or, online, use the “mission” designation.



In addition to supporting Shalom Farms and FeedMore financially, we also have a time-given goal. Together, can we give 40 hours to food-related ministries and initiatives? A first opportunity: this coming **Friday, March 22, between 9 am and 1pm at Belmont UMC's Feeding Ministry**. There will be another volunteer opportunity for folks who need a weekend option in order to participate.

Please turn in this sheet via the offering plate or communicate the equivalent by e-mailing boulevardumc@gmail.com.

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Name:

E-mail:

I would like to volunteer at Belmont UMC's Feeding Ministry on Friday, March 22.

Food for 300 families is distributed there (3510 Broad Rock Blvd) every Friday between the hours of 9am and 1pm. Volunteers bag food, distribute standalone items like bread, and assist families with getting groceries into their vehicles.

☐ I prefer 9am – 11am

☐ I prefer 11am – 1pm

☐ The timeframe when I can offer myself is _____.