

Sunday, October 13, 2019

9:15 a.m.

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Gathering Of Disciples Christian Church

(G.O.D.'s Church)

A Christian congregation

**located in the Angel Chapel at the
Manitowoc Health and Rehabilitation Center
2021 South Alverno Road
Manitowoc, WI**

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Announcing the Day

Our readings remind us that wherever we are hemmed in and restricted, God is there in freedom. Jeremiah writes to the Jews in Babylon that they are to make a home in the very place to which they have been exiled—and they are to pray for this city! The author of 2 Timothy writes of his chains as a life-giving and freeing participation in the rejection and death of Christ Jesus. To lepers who must keep their distance from everyone, Jesus speaks words of healing, obliterating the distance between them. However we may be bound, “the word of God is not chained” (2 Timothy 2:9), and the locked iron door of impossibility swings open.

Welcome

*Please Greet One Another
Introduction and announcements:*

Order of Worship

L: Let us now take a moment to center our hearts and minds on God in preparation for worship.

Opening Prayer

L: We give praise to you, O God,

C: for you are awesome and amazing. We remember your deeds and faithfulness—deeds that have brought us to this day, faithfulness that has helped us weather life’s storms. We have gone through fire and water, and stand before you today in gratitude and praise. How awesome are your deeds, O God! Amen.

The Entrance Hymn

#71

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

The Confession and Forgiveness

(Please stand if you are able)

L: O God,

C: we remember times of blessing in our lives: when we have been released from suffering and despair, when we have been freed to reclaim life and hope; but we also remember times of hardship: when we have been cast out into deep waters, when we have been banished in exile from the world we call home. O God, it is hard to claim the hope and promise of the past in the presence of today’s troubles. Meet us today with your good news that we may be renewed by the power of your presence. Amen.

L: Give praise to God, who accompanies us on our journey, who hears our cries and anguish, and who remains faithful and answers our prayers. Give glory to God, who brings life out of death and joy out of sorrow!

C: Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Hymn of Praise (*sung*)

#317 vs 2 & 3

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave, and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save; his glories now we sing who died and rose on high, who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified; no angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, but down-ward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.

L : The grace that is Christ's gift to us, the love of God and the unity of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

The Prayer of the Day

L: Almighty and most merciful God,

C: your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(Please be seated)

The First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15

¹ Now Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was a great man in the sight of his master and highly regarded, because through him the LORD had given victory to Aram. He was a valiant soldier, but he had leprosy.

² Now bands of raiders from Aram had gone out and had taken captive a young girl from Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my master would see the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

⁷ As soon as the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his robes and said, "Am I God? Can I kill and bring back to life? Why does this fellow send someone to me to be cured of his leprosy? See how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me!" ⁸ When Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his robes, he sent him this message:

3

"Why have you torn your robes? Have the man come to me and he will know that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman went with his horses and chariots and stopped at the door of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to say to him, "Go, wash yourself seven times in the Jordan, and your flesh will be restored and you will be cleansed."

¹¹ But Naaman went away angry and said, "I thought that he would surely come out to me and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, wave his hand over the spot and cure me of my leprosy. ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Couldn't I wash in them and be cleansed?" So he turned and went off in a rage.

¹³ Naaman's servants went to him and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, would you not have done it? How much more, then, when he tells you, 'Wash and be cleansed'!" ¹⁴ So he went down and dipped himself in the Jordan seven times, as the man of God had told him, and his flesh was restored and became clean like that of a young boy.

¹⁵ Then Naaman and all his attendants went back to the man of God. He stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the world except in Israel. So please accept a gift from your servant."

Psalm 111 (recited responsively)

Praise the LORD.

I will extol the LORD with all my heart

in the council of the upright and in the assembly.

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² **Great are the works of the LORD;
they are pondered by all who delight in them.**

³ Glorious and majestic are his deeds,
and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴ **He has caused his wonders to be remembered;
the LORD is gracious and compassionate.**

⁵ He provides food for those who fear him;
he remembers his covenant forever.

⁶ **He has shown his people the power of his works,
giving them the lands of other nations.**

⁷ The works of his hands are faithful and just;
all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸ **They are established for ever and ever,
enacted in faithfulness and uprightness.**

⁹ He provided redemption for his people;
he ordained his covenant forever—
holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰ **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;
all who follow his precepts have good understanding.
To him belongs eternal praise.**

The Second Reading: 2 Timothy 2:8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, descended from David. This is my gospel, ⁹ for which I am suffering even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But God's word is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory.

¹¹ Here is a trustworthy saying:
If we died with him,
we will also live with him;

¹² if we endure,
we will also reign with him.
If we disown him,
he will also disown us;

¹³ if we are faithless,
he remains faithful,
for he cannot disown himself.

¹⁴ Keep reminding God's people of these things. Warn them before God against quarreling about words; it is of no value, and only ruins those who listen. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly handles the word of truth.

L: The Readings for today. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand if you are able)*
(We Will Glorify #337 vs 4)

**C: Hallelujah to the King of kings, hallelujah to the Lamb;
hallelujah to the Lord of lords, who is the great I AM.**

L: The holy Gospel according to Luke, the 17th Chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

The Gospel: Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he was going

into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance ¹³ and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

¹⁴ When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

¹⁵ One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. ¹⁶ He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

¹⁷ Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? ¹⁸ Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

L: The Word of God. **C: For the People of God.**

The Message *(Please be seated)*

The Art of the Deal!

The Hymn of the Day

#359

“Give Thanks”

The Apostle’s Creed *(Please stand if you are able)*

L: Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the Church

L: “Lord, in your Mercy” **C: “Hear Our Prayer”**

The Offering (sung) *(Please be seated)*

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit” #134

C: There’s a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the Spirit of the Lord; there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love; and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we’ll know that we have been revived when we shall leave this place. Amen.

The Offertory Prayer

L: In a world of goodness and struggle,

C: we are grateful for your blessings, O God. As we seek to endure life’s struggles, as we seek to claim your life in those hard parts of our lives—the very places you teach us to look for your freeing presence—teach us to trust that you are always there. May these gifts be sent into our community and into the world around us, that others may claim the hope of your presence. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer *(Please stand if you are able)*

L: Let us join together in the prayer that Jesus taught us and give praise with the ending acclamation given to us by his apostle, Mark.

C: 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 forever and ever. Amen.

The Benediction

L: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord make His face to shine upon us and give us peace. **C: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

#14

"Now Thank We All Our God"

The Dismissal

L: Jesus said to the leper, "Get up and go on your way. Your faith has made you well." Let us all claim Jesus' healing and liberation in our lives. Get up and go on your way! In Jesus' name, our faith has made us whole.

C: Glory be to God! Amen.

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Those Serving Us Today

Message:	Mari Roedig
Leader:	Frank Griffin
Reader:	Julie Bubolz
Music:	Mari Roedig
Usher:	Matt Swadner/Barb Evenson
Altar Prep:	Linda Herzog/Bev Griffin/Wendy Reed/Janet Vogt/Barb Evenson

Our next service will be Sunday, October 20 at 9:15 am.

Next Church Meeting

The next church meeting will be held on **Tuesday, October 15 at 1:00 p.m.** at the home of David and Mari Roedig. All are invited.

Thank You

Thank you to all our members, and residents of the Manitowoc Health Care Center who are so faithful in their attendance to our services. We welcome all of our guests and pray that the Spirit will touch you with the light of Christ.

Donations

Donations are taken in the basket as you enter the chapel. Each month, Gathering of Disciples church donates to charitable non-profit organizations in our community and to the Manitowoc Health and Rehabilitation Center activity fund. Thank you for your generosity as we grow in service to our Lord.