

Friday News from South West

March 3, 2023

[The Second Sunday in Lent](#)

Lent Two speaks to us of call; the call of Creator God, the call of Jesus, the call of the Holy Spirit.

The call which is sometimes heard in the still of the night and sometimes even in public and embarrassing places.

Yes, God calls to each and every one of us in different ways and we are free to choose whether to ignore or answer the call.

This Sunday we will meet Nicodemus; a Pharisee and teacher with disciples of his own. After listening to the words of Jesus, he realizes that, in spite of his self-perceived holiness, something is missing in his life.

The reading is as follows:

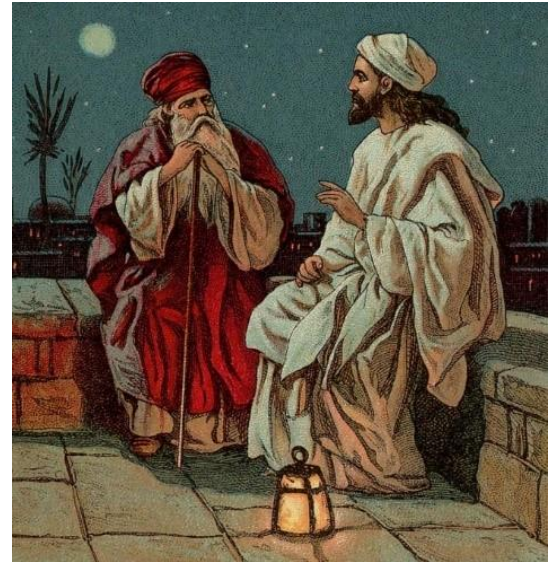
John 3:1-17 - New International Version - Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

³ Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. ² He came to Jesus at night and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

³ Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."

⁴ "How can someone be born when they are old?" Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother's womb to be born!"

⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. ⁶ Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. ⁷ You should not be surprised at my saying, 'You must be born again.' ⁸ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So, it is with everyone born of the Spirit."



⁹“How can this be?” Nicodemus asked.

¹⁰“You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? ¹¹Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still, you people do not accept our testimony. ¹²I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? ¹³No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. ¹⁴Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

The Season of Lent allows us the time and space needed to slow down, step back a little, to take stock of our lives, to see where we might need to make an adjustment or two. In fact, we might indeed think of it as a time to be born anew!

My prayer for this week:

Wind of God, blow through us and refresh us.

Blow through us and heal us.

Blow through us and bring new life.

Blow away the things which prevent us from seeing you in the whole of creation.

Blow through us today and show us ways to help in the healing of this, your world.

Amen

In peace,

Pastor Beryl, DLM

Zoom Lenten Bible Study

You are invited to a scheduled Zoom Lenten Bible Study with Rev. Christine-Marie Gladu,

Thursday mornings beginning March 2nd at 10:30am.

Please find links below to the materials that will be discussed.



Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86964005097?pwd=Sm9aVlFqMFIFaVhuMEVoQINiTTBnQT09>

Meeting ID: 869 6400 5097

Passcode: 830264

Click the 3 links below to save or print PDF documents of materials for the bible study:

[Matisse 1](#)

[Matisse 2](#)

[Matisse 3](#)

She's on the Road!

This week, SouthWest United bid a fond farewell – no, a “see ya later” - to Aline Sorel, who is off to start the next phase of her life in Nova Scotia. The choir and congregation will miss her terribly but our loss is a big gain for her son and daughter-in-law and especially grandsons Emmett and Elliott! Wishing you all the best, Aline. Write if you get work!

Right: A few good choir friends met last weekend for a good-bye lunch, organized by Sarah.



Announcements

As of now, there are no more 11:30 SouthWest services.

Sunday March 5th: SouthWest congregation reunited at 10am Summerlea service with Rev. Christine-Marie Gladu. 2nd of Lent.

SouthWest Annual Congregational Meeting will take place Sunday March 26th after the (10:00) service.

EASTER falls on April 9th and 10th this year.

If you would like to receive the Summerlea bulletin by email every second week, contact their office at 514-634-2651, or email summerlea_united@hotmail.com.

Please note: the new SouthWest office phone number is 514 538-0624

Our Prayer List

Bridget McCarthy

Phyllis Luther

Shirley Mitchell

Patrick O'Leary

Natalie Lalonde

Doris Smith

Maurice Tringle

Gilles Gauthier

Helen Cameron

May Cook

Donna Cobb

Keith Wood

Violet L'Esperance

Roberta Roberts

Sylvia Vallee-Girouard

If you would like your name added to the prayer list, or if you are requesting on behalf of a family member, call the office or contact Pastor Beryl directly.



SouthWest United Church

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