



On the Same Page

“The LORD, the LORD God, compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in lovingkindness and truth; ... yet He will by no means leave the guilty unpunished,” (Exodus 34:6-7)

A

Developing Direction

Forever-Family Fellowship
We will teach and practice truth-and-love relationships with brothers-sisters in Christ that must survive/thrive in the present because we believe that these relationships will last forever

All-Week-Long Worship

As the local body of believers gathers each Sunday for worship, we will inspire a worship experience for all age groups that will travel with you all week long. What we do on Sunday will assist you in your singing, in your praying, in your devotion, and in your witness.

Conversely, it is as you worship all-week-long that you will be prepared to enter into gathered worship on Sunday.

Day-to-Day Discipleship

As followers of Christ, we are disciples every single day. Respect for and commitment to Scripture is essential. **We will show you how to interact with and respond to God's Word, both as individuals, and in groups.**

Moment-by-Moment Mission

God, the Architect of the world and of our lives arranges appointments and interruptions. Each of us is called to represent His Son for the glory of His Name. **We will cultivate a mind-set for moment-by-moment mission, whether close to home, or far away.**

O LORD, our Lord (Psalm 8)

Sunday, March 4, 2018

The psalmist is here speaking to God, not speaking merely for himself, but for a number of people: **“O LORD, our Lord.”** It is a psalm of praise. He is leading a number of people in the praise of their God, and, stretching across continents and centuries, he leads us as well.

But what do we mean by the phrase, **“O LORD, our Lord,”** a phrase which begins the psalm, and which ends the psalm. What are we saying? Careful observation will tell us that it is not mere repetition. First, we have the word **LORD (all caps)**, which is a code word for the covenantal and revered name for God. In fact, over time, it was so revered by the Jewish people that they would no longer pronounce it aloud as written in the Hebrew text, in honor (or safekeeping) of the 3rd commandment, “Though shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.” When reading the Old Testament text aloud, they would substitute the second name in our verse (**Lord, with only the first letter capitalized**), which translates Adonai. That is a term of honor, and denotes God's authority and sovereignty. But the other term speaks of God in covenantal relationship with His people. It's the name that covers both His mercy and His judgment; His holiness and His compassion. Older translations cover it as Jehovah. More modern translations go ahead and blurt it out: Yahweh. Our verse here renders it “LORD.”

This prayer addresses God in the wonder and breadth of His names, and proclaims His majesty, His splendor, and His strength. These are not just found in isolated spots on earth, but throughout all the earth, and indeed, over and above the earth. He is, in His Persons, majestic, and splendid, and exceedingly strong. Machen says, “a stupendous view of God.” And we, if following our psalmist/leader, are impressed.

This God is so great, He makes us feel small. That is, until we find out how much care and attention He showers on us as He calls us to Himself, and as we walk in restored relationship with Him. “What is man, that You take thought of him?” As David says earlier, “Who am I, ...?” To think He shares His majesty with us.

But then, once more, we find that this psalm that includes us, is not all about us. This reference to “the son of man,” “that you care for him,” leads us, - no, forces us to think of Jesus, who indeed rules as God in creation, and under whose feet His and our enemies are being placed. It almost leads us to - praise.

The cross is not misfortune and hard fate. It is instead the suffering that comes to us from being bound to Jesus Christ. The cross is not accidental, but necessary suffering. The cross is not suffering bound up with natural existence, but suffering bound up with being a Christian. The cross is essentially not just suffering but suffering and being rejected—and also, strictly speaking, being rejected for Jesus Christ’s sake, not because of some other kind of behavior or confession.

Bonhoeffer, Dietrich. *God Is on the Cross: Reflections on Lent and Easter* (p. 22).
Presbyterian Publishing Corporation. Kindle Edition.

News and Notes

Prayer Time: Sundays, 9 a.m., in the sanctuary

Ladies Bible Study meet on Tuesdays, 10 a.m., in the sanctuary, studying Matthew’s Gospel.

Circle of Grace ladies fellowship next meets this Tuesday evening, March 6, 6 p.m., in the church lobby.

Men of Action breakfast and meeting is Saturday, March 10, 7:30 a.m.

Daylight Savings Time begins early next Sunday morning, March 11

Awana meets on Wednesday evenings, 6 - 7:30 p.m for ages 3 through 8th grade.

Elders/Deacons meeting, Tuesday, March 13, 6:30 p.m.

We would like to invite interested people to join **Milford Baptist’s Facebook prayer page** (search ‘Milford Prayer’) - a user-by-permission forum to post/read church family prayer requests.

Please note the church’s phone number: 248-717-3564

Weekly Worship @ 11:00 a.m.



Last Sunday, February 25, we were confronted with the question, **“What shall I do to inherit eternal life?”** (Luke 10:25-37). We find a lawyer who seems to ask a less-than-sincere question, and our Lord, who gives an answer that drives deeper than we suspect. The point is not that we should try harder to be better neighbors. We should, rather, embrace the best Neighbor of all. [Listen to the message here.](#)

This Sunday, March, we will observe Lord’s Table, and consider Martha and Mary as they entertain Jesus in their home (Luke 10:38-42). Jesus would have us reconsider our thoughts about productivity and devotion.

Sunday School for adults and children each Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Adults are using their time this week to discuss and decide a missions gift. Children are studying stories from the life of Daniel.