



Christ • Communion • Community

CASCADIAN WEEKLY

March 26, 2021

Week 55

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR JILL

Dear Cascade Christian Church,

As I write this we are almost at the end of Lent. This Sunday will be Palm Sunday, a day of rejoicing as we greet the Savior as He rides into Jerusalem. A week from Thursday we will meet Jesus in the upper room as He washes the feet of His disciples, and then shares the broken bread and the poured wine of His Last Supper. The next day, Good Friday, we will grieve at the cross as we see our sin and our shame placed on the shoulders of Christ as He is nailed to a cross. Then, April 4, we will celebrate that the borrowed tomb is empty, that the women are surprised by a moved stone and angelic visits, and that the men race to see that yes, the grave is empty. Christ who died, lives.

Lent is a time for self-examination, for deeper reflection, for sacrificial giving. If you have been unable to take time for a closer walk with Jesus as He journeys to Jerusalem, please use Holy Week as that time to be at Jesus' side. Easter does not have as much meaning if we do not walk with Jesus the length of His journey. The joy of Easter is sweeter if you spend time with Jesus at the Table, in the Garden of Gethsemane, and at the foot of His cross.

Lent is also a time of hope, expectation, and patience. Hope and expectation are always close together and that can be why so many people have little hope. They live on the short term expectations of immediate gratification, instant answers, and the pressing need to obtain and possess. That kind of urgent life leaves a thirst to have more; it never satisfies, and can lead to a crash of exhaustion and hopelessness.

As disciples of Christ, we have a different kind of expectation, an expectation that follows the footsteps of Jesus, wherever He may lead us. That kind of expectation carries with it a hope, a hope in the mysteries of God's grace, provision, and goodness. When our hopes and expectations walk alongside Jesus Christ, we have the opportunity to look at our lives daily, seeing each day as a new page, each joy and pain as a place to be closer to God in gratitude and supplication. When our hopes and expectations are in Jesus, we can see God's unfolding plan, God's plan: to seek us, find us, bless us, and claim us. Christian hope restores us by putting all of the issues of life in the right perspective.

To walk with Jesus in hope and expectation also requires patience. God's answers come in the time and way that God chooses. We wait for God's answers, and that can be frustrating or discouraging. But the Risen Lord comes to those of us with empty hearts, empty hands, and exhausted spirits with hope, and brings exactly what we need most, the grace of God, freely given, paid for at great price. God has good things on the way for you, so hang on to hope, with expectation and with patience. The Father of mercy is with you, and the Risen Lord reigns!

Keep the faith, Jill



WEEKLY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday_(3/28).

Sunday School - 9:30 AM
PALM SUNDAY Worship - 9:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Monday_(3/29).

Tuesday_(3/30).

Women's Bible Study (Centennial Hall) - 9:00 AM

Wednesday_(3/31).

Anti-Racism Group (Zoom) - 11:30 AM
Middle/High School Wednesday Night (High School Room) - 6:30 PM
Lent Bible Study (Zoom) - 6:30 PM
Troop 334 Boy Scouts (Centennial Hall) - 7:00 PM

Thursday_(4/1).

Griefshare (Zoom) - 10:30 AM
Maundy Thursday Service (Sanctuary) - 6:30 PM

Friday_(4/2).

Good Friday Service (pre-recorded) available on the church website at 12 noon/available all weekend

Saturday_(4/3).

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

PALM SUNDAY, MARCH 28:

Join us for worship as we remember Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. Worship at 9:30 and 11:00 in the sanctuary.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 1:

Join us for a Tenebrae service of shadows as we walk with Jesus to the Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, and to the Courtyard of the High Priest. Jesus walks forward, even as the disciples fall away into the shadows. We will have a quiet worship service and communion in the sanctuary at 6:30PM.

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 2:

Our annual ecumenical Good Friday service will be online only this year, and available on our website throughout Good Friday, beginning at noon. Join with the churches of the Cascade and Forest Hills area as we follow Jesus to the cross as one people, one community.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 4:

Join us online or in person for our celebration for Easter, including an Easter party for the children of the church. This is such a day of hope, triumph over death and sadness, and we will worship Jesus with gratitude and joy! Worship services at 9:30 and 11:00.

CHANGE REGARDING MEMORIAL GIFTS

Effective 4/1/21, we are no longer able to accept any gifts of trees or benches. There is not room on the church campus for any more of these items. We appreciate your understanding of this change.

The Gifts Team

WORSHIP UPDATE

You no longer need to pre-register to attend worship. We will continue with health screening, masking, no singing, and distancing. Please join us this Sunday.

OFFICE TO BE CLOSED ON FRIDAYS

The church office will be closed on Fridays beginning Friday, April 2. The Pastor and Business Manager will be in and can be reached by phone. By closing the office on Fridays we are preparing for Keely Guikema's maternity leave. Please try to cover all church office business on Monday through Thursday. Thank you!

CHAPEL TO REOPEN IN LATE APRIL

We have a tech team at worship in the chapel, adding the equipment needed so we can live-stream and project in our lovely 1880's house of worship. We anticipate being back to worship in the chapel by the end of April. If you attend traditional worship and would like to be trained in live-streaming, please contact Jacob at the church office.

THANK YOU FROM RICK & CAROL TIEMEYER

Dear Church Family,

Thank you for your prayers, cards and expressions of sympathy we received in the passing of Rick's mom, Joanne.

Blessings,

Rick and Carol Tiemeyer

THANK YOU FROM THE LOCKHART FAMILY

A big thank you from the LOCKHART FAMILY to our church family for all their love, prayers and support during Glen's illness and passing. We appreciate all the kind words from Jill and the whole church staff. Thank you .

Sue, Angie, Jason Lockhart and families.

THE CASCADE FOUNDATION TO OFFER MENTAL HEALTH SESSION

The Cascade Community Foundation is offering a session on March 31 on Mental Health. In the episode Val Lego sits down with Pastor Bruce Vaandrager, Kelsey Newsome and Christy Buck about the mental health Foundations "Be Nice Faith" curriculum as well as Bruce and Kelsey's new podcast called "Faith and Mental Health Podcast." The podcast includes a partnership between Pine Rest, Mental Health Foundation, Hope Network, CRC and RCA. To register go to <http://events.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=atfhpwabb&oeidk=a07ehq874g068fed2f5>

SAMO (SOCIAL ACTION/MISSION OUTREACH)

DAYS FOR GIRLS WORK DAY

Thank you to the volunteers that came to the Days for Girls Work Day this past Saturday!



ANTI-RACISM ACTION GROUP

On April 17th from 8:30-3:30, the Anti-Racism Action Group will be holding a day-long anti-racism training session led by Reverend Kathy Bird DeYoung. To sign up contact the church office.

CAMP CRYSTAL

June 20-25 Elementary Camp
July 6-9 Day Camp
July 11-17 Middle School Camp
July 11-17 High School Camp
July 18-24 Family Camp

All registrations will be online this year.
Check the website for details



REGISTRATION

Registration for Camp Crystal is LIVE! Go to www.CampCrystal.org/registration then scroll down to Online Registrations. Please help us spread the word about Jesus through our awesome summer camp on the beautiful shores of Crystal Lake. We have many different options available for you this summer -- including a day camp, with an overnight option! If you would like to learn more about any of these opportunities or have issues registering, please email Michael at mdirksen@cascadechristian.com. We want to make sure every kid that wants to go to camp, gets to go up to camp this summer!

CAMP CRYSTAL SCHOLARSHIPS

We have scholarships available for anyone who needs them through Cascade Christian Church. The scholarship form is available online here: <https://forms.gle/A2gvybPcbs5sB2h1EA> or hard copies may be picked up in the church office. Participants must be registered for camp to receive the scholarship. If you are in need of further monetary assistance paying for camp, please still apply for the scholarship and also contact Jill in the Church office.

INTERESTED IN BEING A COUNSELOR?

Are you or someone you know interested in being a counselor or counselor in training for Camp Crystal this summer? We are looking for counselors! If you are interested in counseling for Elementary Camp please email Jill at jforton@cascadechristian.com. If you are interested in counseling for Middle School or High School camp, please email Michael mdirksen@cascadechristian.com.

COME ON UP TO DAY CAMP

Do you want to experience a week (or just a day or two?) up at Camp Crystal with your child or grandchild? Come on up to Day Camp! If your child or grandchild is entering 6th grade or younger, you're invited to come up to Camp Crystal with them, enjoy our day camp programming during the day and then have your own fun during the afternoon and evening. Day camp is July 6th-9th and the programming starts at 10 AM and ends at 2:30 PM. Scholarships are available for families who want to participate!

CAMP NURSE NEEDED!

We need a camp nurse for Elementary Camp. If you are able to serve as the nurse for a week, please contact Jill at jforton@cascadechristian.com. The dates are June 20th-25th. Lodging and food are provided.



TIME TO REGISTER FOR CAMP! INVITE A FRIEND TOO!

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN-PERSON

Every week at the 9:30 service we have in-person Sunday School for children ages 4 and up. The children begin the morning in the sanctuary with their families and then are dismissed to go to class. Students will be brought back down to church after the service.

VOLUNTEERING

We are in **need** of some parent volunteers to help us run Sunday School at the 9:30 Service as well as come on Wednesday Nights. If this is an area where you may have an interest in helping, please send an email to Michael Dirksen at midirksen@cascadechristian.com. No need to have kids in the program! All volunteers need to be screened before they are able to help.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - SAVE THE DATE

Our Vacation Bible School will be held from July 26th-30th 2021. Please save the date and stay tuned for how you can help us make this happen this year!

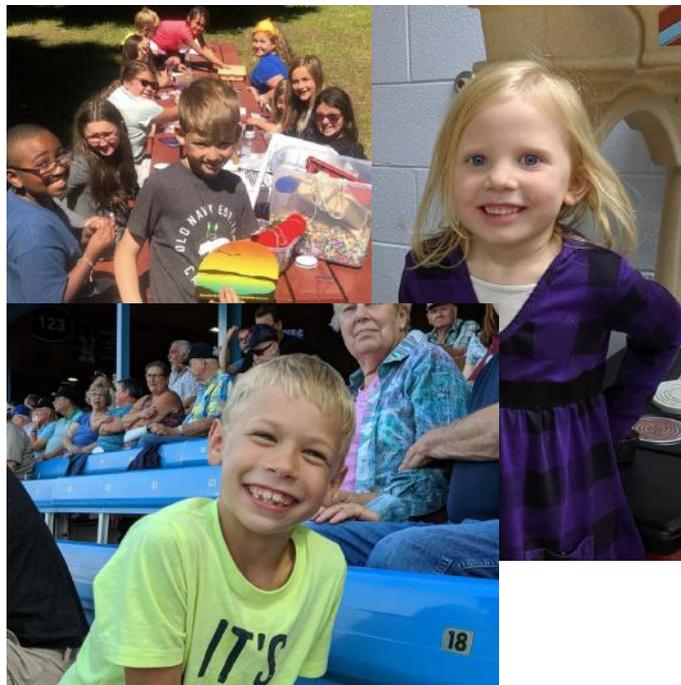
CRIB ROOM REOPENED

Our crib room has reopened for infants and toddlers through age 3 at the 9:30 service. Parents must make a reservation for this kind of childcare. Drop-ins will not be permitted. Reservations are appreciated by the Wednesday before the Sunday you plan to attend. Call the church office to make your reservation.

SONSHINE CONTEST

We look forward to celebrating Easter Sunday with the children of the church. If they are here for in-person Sunday School at 9:30 there will be an Easter movie, Easter crafts, and a selection of Easter prizes for those who have been doing their Sunday School pages at home.

Children get a point for every Sunday School lesson page that they do that was sent to them in the mail, a point for each time they do the daily devotion with "Gather Around the Cross", and a point for every activity they do in the Lenten pencil book that was mailed to them at the beginning of Lent. This is all on the honor system, so Moms and Dads are asked to keep track of points and send your child to Sunday School with an approximate tally of what they have done. Those who are doing Sunday School at home only and will not be at the Easter Celebration, can call in their point tally, and prizes will be mailed to them or dropped off at their home.



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP

WEEKLY EVENTS

We are back to a regular weekly schedule of events that include Sunday School during the 9:30 service. Wednesday Night Youth Group from 6:30-8:00. Then typically the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month we will do a special event! We hope you join us!

EASTER SUNDAY

We will be having Sunday School on Easter Sunday for all ages. Come ready to learn about what happened on Easter, for some snacks, games, and much more. If you have any questions about our COVID precautions or anything, please email Michael at mdirksen@cascadechristian.com

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL IMMERSION (MISSION) TRIP

We are going on a Mission Trip this year! Think of this as Mission Trip: Remixed. We are taking the Middle and High Schoolers to Detroit to serve with Rippling Hope from August 1st - August 5th. If you would like to sign up or help us as a volunteer, please follow this link: <https://forms.gle/VZyWHwg4M4GeLmhp6> (same sign up as Mackinac)

MACKINAC ISLAND - JUNE 28TH-30TH

We are planning a trip to Mackinac Island for all the Middle and High School students this summer. We will be leaving during the day on June 28th. That night we will be staying at Camp Crystal. The next morning we will leave early from Camp Crystal and go to the Island for a day of fun on the island. That night we will be heading back to Camp Crystal where we will stay one additional night and return to Cascade around 1 pm on Wednesday, June 30th. To sign up, please go here: <https://forms.gle/VZyWHwg4M4GeLmhp6>. (Same sign up as the Immersion Trip)



3.21.2021 THE COMEBACK SERMON

Today I'd like to think with you about the idea of a comeback. A come back can mean a couple of different things - I think about basketball a lot these days, and I appreciate the condolences some of you have given me in the loss of my beloved Spartans. When our team is behind, we all hope for a comeback, and when it happens, we are at the edge of our seat, on our feet, cheering for our team. But come backs don't always happen, and that is a reality, and then you might find yourself out of the game.

Another kind of comeback is how we respond to people. You can comeback with a compliment, an insult, a laugh, a smile, a prank. Some of the wit and humor you share with me in your quick comebacks and innocent pranks, have made my days brighter. Not all pranks or comebacks are so innocent. There's a story that British playwright Noel Coward once played a prank on twenty of his friends by sending them anonymous note that read: "Everybody has found out what you have done. If I were you, I would get out of town." What did all twenty men do? All twenty got out of town!

What if you opened your mail one day and found such a note? What would race through your mind? What would be your comeback? You might think of what you hide, what you hope no one will ever know. Think of the things people try to hide - income from the IRS, the time spent at work playing video games, the inflated expense account, or hiding a text from a partner, spouse, or family. We all have that hidden part of ourselves that we hope is never exposed. Hiding is part of our nature as Adam and Eve tried to hide from God in the Garden of Eden, hiding in guilt because they disobeyed God. The Bible is full of the stories of their descendants who try to hide or cover up what they don't want discovered. And we are no different, we too try to hide from God in our guilt.

Now guilt is not a bad thing - guilt can be part of a comeback. Guilt is that awareness that sits heavy on our hearts when we know we have sinned or messed up. Guilt is different from shame. Guilt says to us - you did something wrong; confess it, apologize, find a way to make this right. Shame is another thing - shame is when the evil one tells us that we are the thing that is wrong. We're broken, unfixable, worthless, beyond help, and it is all our fault. My guess is we know both guilt and shame.

Today we have a story of guilt and a comeback- a story of trying to hide from God. This is the story of Peter's denial of Jesus Christ, a continuation of what Jacob and I have both spoken about the last two weeks. In Matthew's Gospel we read how Jesus shared the Last Supper with His disciples, Judas took off to betray him, Peter declared he would follow Jesus to the death and the other 10 disciples said the same. Jesus took the disciples to the Mount of Olives, and they sang the Passover Psalms, remembering how death passed over the people of God in Egypt when they put the blood of a lamb over their doors. They remembered how God delivered them and lead them forward into freedom.

We remember how Jesus asked the disciples to stay awake and pray with him, as He asked God if it is possible that this cup be taken from him, yet, and then He tells His Father - "Yet not as I will, but as you will." In John's Gospel Jesus prayed for Himself, for His disciples, and then for all the disciples to

3.21.2021 THE COMEBACK SERMON

come, and that means you and me. His friends fell asleep - then Judas came, with a large crowd, armed with swords and clubs, and kissed Jesus as the prearranged sign, that this was the man to arrest. Even in this - Jesus said to Judas, "Friend, do what you came for."

Jesus was arrested, there was a brief fight between the guards and his companions, and Jesus reminded all of them that He could call down more than 12 legions of angels to fight for him, but no - the scripture must be fulfilled. Then all the disciples deserted him, they fled into the darkness.

Jesus was taken to the house of Caiaphas, the high priest, and before the Sanhedrin, the 70 elders, scribes, and priests of the Jewish Council. They determined, based on false evidence about Jesus, that Jesus should be condemned to death, and then they beat him, over and over, spit in his face, and mocked Him.

But this council couldn't carry out an execution, that was the work of the Roman occupiers. Peter found a bit of the courage he had boasted of a few hours before, and entered the courtyard of Caiaphas. It was filled with people, news had traveled, a crowd had gathered, and being that it was still night and cold, bonfires had been lit. But this was the hour when darkness reigned. Peter hid in the shadows, tried not to be noticed, tried to see what was happening, but to not get too close. He knew what these people were capable of - this was a dangerous place, Peter was not safe among these people.

We are going to look at Matthew's account of what Peter did in the courtyard. This is what Peter must have confessed to his friend Matthew, and Matthew wrote it down - this is Peter's confession of guilt and shame. Matthew 26:69-75.

69 Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. "You also were with Jesus of Galilee," she said. 70 But he denied it before them all. "I don't know what you're talking about," he said.

71 Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, "This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth." 72 He denied it again, with an oath: "I don't know the man!"

73 After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, "Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away."

74 Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, "I don't know the man!" Immediately a rooster crowed. 75 Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: "Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times." And he went outside and wept bitterly.

Peter was questioned three times, and came back with a stronger and stronger and stronger denial. Then he felt so guilty, so ashamed. Maybe there's someone on the planet who hasn't known guilt, shame, and remorse, that ongoing whisper from the evil one that "You're worthless" - but I've never met that person. We all have been sucked under - we have all messed up, we have all failed, we have all done what we should not have done, and we have no one to blame but ourselves.

3.21.2021 THE COMEBACK SERMON

In Caiaphas' courtyard we see Peter's guilt and our own. Have you ever been like Peter - and made a bold assertion that you'd never fail or walk away from Jesus, faith, family? Have you made a vow you didn't keep? Peter had claimed 'Though they all fall away because of you, I will never fall away.' Jesus told Peter that before the rooster crowed in the morning, Peter would deny knowing Jesus, three times. Peter's comeback was, 'Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!'"

Peter had good reason to believe he could and would stand up for Jesus. They'd been through so much together. Three years earlier, Jesus had walked on the north shore of the Sea of Galilee and saw Peter fishing with his brother Andrew and called them to follow him. A year later, Peter followed Jesus out onto the Sea of Galilee during a fierce storm, and walked on water, but then he began to sink when he took his eyes off Jesus. Jesus took hold of Peter, and hauled him up, and saved him. And at Caesarea Philippi, Peter said to Jesus, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." After that, Jesus took Peter—along with James and John—to see his glory on the Mt. of Transfiguration. Then Jesus invited this same trio to pray with Him in the Garden of Gethsemane. No wonder Peter made the claim, "Even if I must die with you, I will not deny you!"

But we've all made that claim. When we were baptized, made a profession of faith, or joined the church we were asked by the pastor- "Do you believe Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and do you accept Him as your Lord and Savior?" We said yes! Some of you are married, and the pastor asked if you would take your spouse in sickness and health, for richer for poorer, for better, for worse, and you said - I will, I do. When we claimed Christ, and when we said our wedding vows, we did so with joy and hope. But then reality came, and the cracks appeared, the problems of life made their comeback, and things were not always rosy. Maybe things started to fall apart.

As the events in the courtyard unfold, it's like watching cracks in a house's foundation slowly spread. A servant girl came up to Peter and said, "You were with Jesus the Galilean." Peter denied it, saying, "I don't know what you're talking about." Did you hear it? That was the first crack, Peter simply denies knowing Jesus at all.

Peter went out, to the courtyard's entrance, to the gateway, maybe he was thinking about leaving. Another girl saw him, and said to the people around her "This man was with Jesus of Nazareth." Again Peter denied it. Only this time with an oath: "I don't know the man." Swearing an oath is a serious thing - like vowing to tell the truth in court. Peter swears an oath that he doesn't know Jesus. The second crack.

Matthew continues "After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, 'Certainly you too are one of them, for your accent betrays you.' Then he began to invoke a curse on himself and to swear, 'I don't know the man.'" We know the Jews in Galilee spoke a different dialect of Aramaic, meaning Peter had an accent. I have been told by friends in the southwest that I have a midwestern accent, I have also been asked if I am Danish or from Ontario. We all have an accent, even when we can't hear it. Peter's

3.21.2021 THE COMEBACK SERMON

accent gave him away, he sounds like a Galilean. And this third questioning gets to him. The people standing there surround him and question him. Is this the beginnings of a mob? Peter has a furious comeback - he curses. The way he curses translates that he should be eternally condemned if what he was saying was not true. Peter would rather be condemned forever than admit he knew Jesus. Then the loudest crack - the crow of the rooster.

What a harsh comeback to the questions - first, Peter's evasive denial, then a direct denial—on oath. Finally Peter's cursed. Then crowing of the rooster, and everything collapsed for Peter. I think many of us know that collapse - it happens when we say, just one more drink, one more lie, one more bet, one more look. We can't stop ourselves, our world breaks apart, and when there are enough cracks, there will always be a collapse. And we are guilty, and we want to hide our shame, and we plug our ears, fearing we will hear our rooster.

So we turn to our options:

- Go numb - don't feel anything - numb it during happy hour. Numb it through binge shopping or eating; go numb in front of the tv or the internet.
- Deny your guilt. Pretend the rooster never crowed. Concoct a plan to cover it all up. It wasn't me - I wasn't there - I don't know Him. One lie, though, leads to another.
- Or maybe you bury it. Bury your guilt beneath a mountain of work and a calendar of appointments. The busier we stay, the less time we have to spend with that one person we have come to dislike the most—ourselves.
- Punish yourself, flog yourself with guilt, not with whips, but with rules. Create a long list of things to do. Pray more! Study more! Show up earlier and stay up later.
- Minimize the guilt. We didn't sin, we just lost our way, we just got caught up in the moment. We didn't sin, we just took the wrong path.
- Redirect your guilt. Lash out at the kids, spouse, coworkers, dog, the driver in the next lane, no matter what, make this about someone else.
- Offset your guilt with perfection. Build the perfect family. Create the perfect career. Score perfect grades. And be completely intolerant of mistakes of others.

Guilt and shame can turn us into miserable, weary, angry, stressed-out people. Guilt and shame suck the life right out of us. But God's grace restores and brings life, and light, and freedom, and hope. But for that to happen, we need to get really honest with ourselves, and confess. We need to look at our guilt and admit it - we messed up. We need to look at our shame and see that shame is not from God, but from the evil one telling us how worthless we are. Peter's turn around, his comeback came when he admitted his sin to himself - and he went out and wept bitterly. Peter didn't numb his guilt, deny, bury, or minimize it. Peter didn't pretend to be perfect; Peter confessed his guilt. Period.

Before Peter left, weeping, Luke's gospel records an astonishing moment. The guards must have brought Jesus out from his meeting with Caiaphas. Jesus was in the courtyard, not far from Peter. Close enough

3.21.2021 THE COMEBACK SERMON

to hear what Peter said, close enough to hear the denial, the oath, the curse, and the dawn crowing of the rooster.

Luke wrote in chapter 22: Just as he (Peter) was speaking, the rooster crowed. The Lord turned and looked straight at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word the Lord had spoken to him: "Before the rooster crows today, you will disown me three times." What was in that look? Mercy? Hurt? Understanding? Disappointment? Compassion? Love? What did that look from the eyes of Jesus say to Peter? Those same eyes see you, your guilt, brokenness, sinfulness. No matter how hard you try to hide, you are seen.

Now we leave the courtyard, Peter goes outside to weep, Jesus leaves the courtyard to walk towards His crucifixion. He walks out of the courtyard for Peter. He walks for us. **Jesus does this so we can make a comeback.** Jesus does this so we don't lose. Jesus does this, giving His all, so we can win it all. Jesus does this, so no matter how far we have walked or run away, no matter how hard we try to hide, no matter how faithless our witness has been, we can come back. He doesn't wait until we get it all together, overcome our temptations, fight our demons, or conquer our sins. **Romans 5:8 says, "God shows his love for us in this—while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."** In our courtyard, we confront our guilt. Beyond our courtyard—at the cross—we are gifted with grace, and are invited to come back.

Peter left the courtyard feeling like a loser. But thanks to the grace and forgiveness of Jesus, Peter has a comeback. Who preached the sermon on Pentecost and converted 3,000 people? Peter. Who performed miracles and stood up for Jesus until his own death on a cross? Peter, who would remind you that comebacks don't depend on how much we love Jesus. Comebacks depend on how much Jesus loves us. Comebacks don't depend on what we do for Jesus. Comebacks depend on what Jesus does for us. Comebacks don't depend upon us giving our life for Jesus. Comebacks depend on Jesus giving his life for us.

Our story isn't over when Jesus is in it. We can all comeback from guilt. How? Close your eyes a moment, imagine Jesus looking straight at you, like He did Peter in the courtyard. Look into those eyes, and you'll see the invitation, to come back, come back, come, come back. Amen and amen.

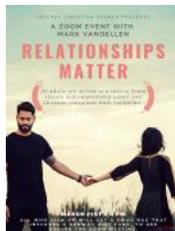
RELATIONSHIPS MATTER FOLLOW UP

Many thanks to the twenty two people who spent a sunny Sunday afternoon with Mark VanDellen exploring how we can improve our relationships, particularly in marriage. If you were unable to attend, and would like the handouts or would like to talk to Mark VanDellen, please contact Pastor Jill.

The Zoom link for the event can be found at:

Topic: Relationships Matter

Meeting Recording: <https://tinyurl.com/256ckxh6>



Financial giving for
the week ending in
3/21/2021:
Budgeted: \$8,432
Given: \$9,057