

DAYBREAKING NEWS

A message from Pastor Tom | Music for the Soul

Prayer Requests

Prayers: Lee Smith's daughter Lara, an ER nurse in L.A. and for all the healthcare workers and medical support personnel providing healing and life saving care for those in need; For families making life and death health decisions; Gladys Mercer and her family as she has been moved to Hospice care; Our government leaders as they discern how to lead in ways that preserve life.

If you have prayer requests or other needs, please let the church know. You can call the church office or let your prayer chain contact know.

Giving

Our offering plate is going to be lonely without Sunday Services, but never fear, you can still send your tithes and offerings to the Aldersgate church office:

Aldersgate UMC.
3530 N. 32nd Street
Phoenix, AZ 85018-5609
(602) 956-3710

May I Come In?

Greetings from home! I miss seeing each of you on Sunday morning and look with much anticipation to when we can gather again. Sunday mornings have seemed empty not gathering together in our sanctuary to worship. I'm sure that I am not the only one of us who has that feeling. The rest of the week doesn't seem the same not gathering as family, singing praise, praying and hear God's word, together. It will be even more difficult the next two weeks with Palm Sunday and Easter.

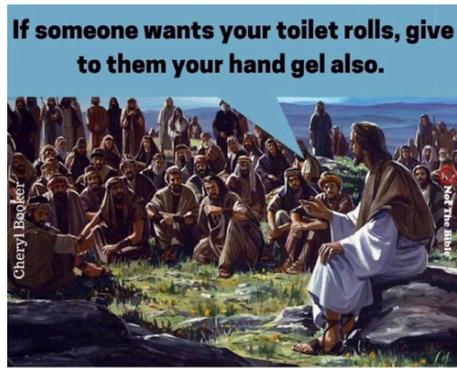
As I think about Palm Sunday, my thoughts turn to the Scripture; Jesus "resolutely set out for Jerusalem," these words found in Luke chapter 9:51. Other translations read "onward to Jerusalem" or "set his face toward Jerusalem." Whichever translation, what powerful words, especially, when we realize that Jesus knew what was ahead of him, what he expected when he would enter the Holy City and still, he went there!

On Palm Sunday we remember that day, we celebrate by recapturing a bit of the excitement of those who lined the street when he rode into the city, waving palm branches and cheering, but that scene soon changed to heartache. We tend to jump from that excitement to Easter morning ignoring all the in between pain and suffering. We jump to the Resurrection.

Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem. He understood what was to come but he, also, understood "loved your neighbor as you love yourself. He understood the call to reach out to others, a life of servant hood a call to social action. "Onward to Jerusalem."

Well, we, as people of faith, are called to service in different ways during this worldwide crisis. Onward to Jerusalem knowing the pain before us but called to service. There are so many ways for us to serve and first is to stay home. But there are many ways we can serve from home. I'm not going into the list because because

Comedy Corner



Mt 5:40 (sort of)

A prayer of Julian of Norwich

In you, Father all-mighty, we have our preservation and our bliss.

In you, Christ, we have our restoring and our saving.

You are our mother, brother, and Saviour. In you, our Lord the Holy Spirit, is marvelous and plenteous grace.

You are our clothing; for love you wrap us and embrace us.

You are our maker, our lover, our keeper.

Teach us to believe that by your grace all shall be well,

and all shall be well,

and all manner of things shall be well.

Amen

there are suggestions every day in the news, TV, the web and calling friends. We can begin getting ideas there, from our homes.

A very young soldier was taking part in his first engagement when, suddenly, in the darkness his officer hears him cry, "Lieutenant, Lieutenant, I have caught a prisoner." The Lieutenant said; "Bring him to me." The soldier replied; "I can't he is holding me too tight."

Many of us are like the soldier, we are a prisoner but in our case to the way life was just several weeks ago before the COVID-19 pandemic came into our world. Life has changed and people all over the world are crying in suffering and loss. Our own lives have been disrupted, scary and confusing but we are still called to ministry, to service; "Onward to Jerusalem." Jesus, comes into this world with a peculiar appeal and power; he gives significance, meaning and purpose to life. He liberates all who turn to him to discover how to become truly human as God created us to be.

Mother Teresa once told an American visitor in India that the Black Hole is not confined to Calcutta. "Just do something for someone else." she said; "something that goes beyond the realm of a gift and into the category of sacrifice.... For you and every other person, it need only become a small habit to remember to be kind and considerate to others..."

We all need that in these times so we are called; "Onward to Jerusalem."

Miss you! Tom

Music for the Soul

With in-person worship suspended, we all may have a little too much silence in our days. To help fill our need for worship and song while we are staying home, David Rowe has offered to copy some traditional Methodist Hymns to CDs deliver them to anyone's home who wants one. Please email David at rowedave@rocketmail.com or leave a message with the church office (602) 956-3710 if you would like a CD.

Rev. Tom Kiracofe

Pastor

Martha Stowe

Administrator