



The Parish News

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Lenten Sunday Sermons

The Trouble with Christianity: Why it's so Hard to Believe

Why does God allow suffering in the world? How could a loving God send people to hell? Hasn't Christianity been a tool of oppression and injustice through the ages? Don't we each have to find our own truth?

These are just a few of the questions that both believers and skeptics ask today. These questions are especially important to people living in our area and they are important to us. During the Sundays in Lent, Pastor Knapp and Vicar Eric will address these questions in a thoughtful and respectful way, and respond to them with cogent answers that will encourage discussion and deeper reflection. This series is based on Pastor Tim Keller's book, "The Reason for God: Belief in an Age of Skepticism"

This series will be helpful and uplifting to Christians who struggle with questions about their faith. It will also be most useful to people who have doubts about God and would like to engage a reasoned Christian response. Study notes will be included with each message. If there is interest, discussion groups could continue the conversation following the church service over lunch.

February

21 "Exclusivity: How Can There be Just One True Religion?"
 1 John 4:1-10

28 "Suffering: If God is Good Why is there so much Evil in the World?"
 1 Peter 1:3-12

March

7 "Absolutism: Don't We Each Have to Find Our Own Truth?"
 Galatians 2:14-16

14 "Injustice: Hasn't Christianity been an Instrument for Oppression?"
 James 2:1-17

21 "Hell: Isn't the God of Christianity an Angry Judge?"
 Luke 16:19-31

Please Note!
 Church Office Hours are **Monday thru Friday from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm.** These are the hours the office will be unlocked and staff is available to assist you.

**Church Office Closed
 Monday, Feb. 15**

Lenten Wednesday Sermon Series

The Wounds of Jesus

This sermon series prepares our hearts to celebrate the climax of God's incarnation: His suffering and death. The Wounds of Jesus draws on the ancient tradition of contemplating Christ's wounds to enrich our spiritual lives today. Your eyes will be opened to the price Christ paid to redeem every aspect of our being...and what it means to follow in His footsteps, presenting our bodies as 'living sacrifices'.

Wednesday, February 17, 2010 **His Back** **Sermon text: John 19:1**

"Look how His bloodstained back in every part brings heaven to us."

St. John's Passion, by J. S. Bach

Wednesday, February 24, 2010 **His Feet** **Sermon Text: Luke 24:36-40**

"See from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down"

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross, v.3

Wednesday, March 3, 2010 **His Hands** **Sermon Text: John 20:12-20**

O Christ, the Master Carpenter, who at the last through wood and nails purchased our whole salvation, wield well your tools in the workshop of your world, so that we who come rough hewn to your bench may here be fashioned to a truer beauty by your hand. Amen.

Wednesday, March 10, 2010 **His Side** **Sermon Text: John 19:31-37**

"Rock of Ages, cleft for me, Let me hide myself in thee; Let the water and the blood, From thy riven side which flowed, Be of Sin the Double cure, Cleanse me from its guilt and power."

Rock of Ages, v.1

Wednesday, March 17, 2010 **His Head** **Sermon Text: Matthew 27:27-30**

O Sacred Head now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down, Now scornfully surrounded With thorns your only crown. O sacred head what glory And bliss did once combine; Thought now despised and gory, I joy to call you mine."

O Sacred Head, v. 1

ConnectingPoint: A Color Kaleidoscope



“After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!””

(Revelation 7:9–10 ESV)

John witnesses a global assembly of people worshipping Jesus with their hands are holding palm branches and their voices praise God. If you were to visit ConnectingPoint on Sunday you would see a glimpse of what John was describing here in Revelation.

ConnectingPoint is a color kaleidoscope of heaven. We have people who are from various nations such as Guatemala, Bulgaria, the Dominican Republic and the United States. It's truly amazing what God is doing because we have all shades of skin color and a lot of diversity at a small growing church plant.

ConnectingPoint is probably one of the most ethnically diverse churches in the Metrowest. This is very exciting for at least three reasons.

1) God is assembling a community church that looks a lot like the full spectrum of nations that live in the Marlborough-Framingham community. It's great to have a community church that looks like the com-

munity. Praise God!

2) ConnectingPoint is becoming a great church for people who like to be at a church with ethnic diversity, interracial marriages, etc.

3) It's wonderful to see because we are getting a glimpse of the things yet to come! People from every nation and tongue. From generation to generation. Coming together to worship Jesus, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Please continue to keep ConnectingPoint in your prayers.

+peace+

Eric Sahlberg

www.connectingpointchurch.org

508-596-1121

Thank You Ladies of the LWML

To the kind Ladies of Mt. Calvary's LWML:

This is a long overdue Thank You for the lovely gift bag you gave the young mothers of Mt. Calvary. I was so touched by the thoughtful and caring items you chose as well as the

recognition of the job we are attempting to do with our children. It feels so good to have the support of women who know what we are experiencing at this time of our lives. Thank you so very much for taking the time to reach out to mothers of small children

during such a busy season. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. My favorite item was the beautiful embroidered cross!

~Kara Osselmann





Generous Collection for Haiti Orphanage

The response by Mt. Calvary members to the devastating earthquake in Haiti has been overwhelming. A total of \$7,786 was collected for the "Hope for the Children of Haiti" Orphanage located just outside of Port-au-Prince. Just over \$200 was designated for shipping quilts crafted by our Seniors Ministry for

distribution by Lutheran World Relief. Thank you for your financial generosity and for your continued prayers for the orphanage and the millions of other earthquake victims. Former member, Hal Cleveland, who is currently chairman of "Hope for the Children of Haiti" has expressed his deep

appreciation and gratitude for Mt. Calvary's support. For more information about the orphanage, visit their website at www.hfchaiti.org

LCMS Provides Link for Info on Haiti

A link has been created on the LCMS home page where visitors can go to find all the latest news about the LCMS response to the Haiti earthquake. On the LCMS homepage

(www.lcms.org) click on the Haiti Update banner near the top of the page. Check back frequently to get updated information and links to WRHC, World Mission, Lutheran

Reporter, secular news coverage, photos, and videos. The shortcut link directly to the Haiti Update banner is www.lcms.org/help.

Cell Phone Fundraiser for Youth Mission Trip

The Sr. High Youth will be heading to Appalachia for this summer's mission trip. As part of our fundraising efforts, **we're collecting old cell phones** that will be redeemed for cash.

It's simple...**just drop your cell phone in the collection box** located near the main

entrance and we'll take care of the rest. Phones can be in any condition and chargers or other accessories are **not** necessary. Not only will we be compensated financially, but by recycling your cell phone you're helping the environment by keeping the toxic chemicals in cell phones out of landfills.

Contact Jon Rossman if you have any questions.



Church Calendar

Sun. 2/7	8:00 AM	“The Crossing” Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Kingdom Quest
	9:00 AM	Jr & Sr High Yth Bible Studies
	9:00 AM	“Jesus, the Life of the Messiah” Adult Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Communion Worship
	10:00 AM	Coffee & Community
	10:30 AM	Communion Worship w/Children’s Church
Mon. 2/8		
Tues. 2/9	9:00 AM	Quilters
	2:45 PM	Junior Girl Scouts Troop Mtg.
Wed. 2/10	6:30 PM	Ladies Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal
Thurs. 2/11		
Fri. 2/12	7:00 PM	Cub Scout Pack Mtg.
Sat. 2/13	9:00 AM	LWML Women’s Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Cub Scout Pinewood Derby
Sun. 2/14	8:00 AM	“The Crossing” Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Kingdom Quest
	9:00 AM	Jr & Sr High Yth Bible Studies
	9:00 AM	“Jesus, the Life of the Messiah” Adult Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Worship & Vow Renewal
	10:00 AM	Coffee & Community
	10:30 AM	Worship w/Children’s Church & Vow Renewal
Mon. 2/15	Presidents Day - Church Office Closed	
Tues. 2/16	9:00 AM	Quilters
	12:00 PM	Seniors Bible Study
	6:00 PM	Mix, Bake, & Serve Growth Grp.
	7:00 PM	Church Council Mtg.
Wed. 2/17	6:30 PM	Women’s Bible Study
	6:30 PM	Worship Team Rehearsal
Thurs. 2/18	6:30 PM	AB Swim Team Dinner
	7:00 PM	“Thin Within” Growth Grp.
Fri. 2/19	6:15 AM	Men’s Bible Study
Sat. 2/20		

Cont. from below

Church Calendar

Sun 2/21	8:00 AM	“The Crossing” Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Kingdom Quest
	9:00 AM	Jr & Sr High Yth Bible Studies
	9:00 AM	“Jesus, the Life of the Messiah” Adult Bible Study
	9:00 AM	Communion Worship
	10:00 AM	Coffee & Community
	10:30 AM	Communion Worship w/Children’s Church
	5:30 PM	Sr High Yth Small Grp
	6:00 PM	The Crossing Leadership Mtg.
	6:00 PM	“Staying in Love Couples Grp.

PSA’s (Public Service Announcements)

■ **First Concern Pregnancy Resource Center** will soon be starting “Forgiven and Set Free”, their study for any woman who has had an abortion and longs to know the forgiveness and healing that comes from Christ. If you have had an abortion and are weary of carrying this alone, please consider attending. The group is very small (no more than 4 women), is free and completely confidential. They also offer one on one counseling. Call 978-365-9817 or email firstconcern@aol.com if you are interested in getting more information. They have seen broken women come alive. It is never too soon or too late to seek healing.

■ **From Kohl’s Cares for Kids:** Each year Kohl’s rewards kids ages 6 to 18 for their good deeds through the Kohl’s Kids Who Care® Scholarship Program. This

year marks the 10th anniversary of this program. To date Kohl’s has recognized more than 11,000 kids and awarded more than \$2.2 M in scholarships and prizes. This year Kohl’s plans to recognize and additional 2,100 kids with prizes ranging from \$50 Kohl’s gift cards to a total of \$10,000 in scholarships. We need your help. Please help us to identify stand-up kids who are doing great work to benefit their community. Whether organizing a local food drive, helping a younger child learn to read or cleaning up a community park, every contribution makes a difference. Please visit www.kohlkids.com to nominate a deserving kid ages 6 to 18. Scholarship nominations will be accepted Feb 1 to Mar 5.

Mt Calvary's

"A Church dedicated to the mission of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ"

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Parish News Deadline

Due to the holidays, the next edition of the Parish News will be **February 17, 2010**. The **DEAD-LINE** to submit an article for the next edition is noon on **Wednesday, February 21.**

Please email all articles to parishnews@mtcalvaryacton.org. Issues of the Parish News are available on the website at www.mtcalvaryacton.org.

Confidential Prayer Chain

From now until April 16 please contact Sharon Berg at with confidential prayer requests.

We Come to Serve...

"Serve the Lord with gladness..." Psalm 100:2

Assisting Ministers—Feb. 7		
	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
Elders:	*Bob Meier Don Hardy	*Gary Dahl Rich McKay
Ushers:	*Mike Smutok Kevin Saaristo Dave Thoma Mike Tobia	*Paul Rafuse Jeff Jones Paul Rhinhart Steve Trentsch
Lectors:	Jack Brophy	Al Locker
Acolytes:	Janice Moritz	Grant Larson
Counters:	Ellen Perko, Frank Inman	
Security	Bill Schade	
Altar Care	TBA	

Assisting Ministers—Feb 14		
	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
Elders:	Bob Meier	Gary Dahl
Ushers:	*Mike Smutok Kevin Saaristo Dave Thoma Mike Tobia	*Paul Rafuse Jeff Jones Paul Rhinhart Steve Trentsch
Lectors:	Kleinschmidt's	Phil Davis
Acolytes:	Janice Moritz	Blaise Dudziak
Counters:	Gary Peterson, Dave Thoma	
Security	Bob Bettinson,	

Assisting Ministers Ash Wednesday, Feb 17	
	7:30 PM
Elders:	*Gary Dahl Stan Reible
Lectors:	Pastor
Acolytes:	Robert Davis
Altar Care	TBA

Assisting Ministers—Feb. 21		
	9:00 AM	10:30 AM
Elders:	*Bob Meier Don Hardy	*Gary Dahl Rich McKay
Ushers:	*Mike Smutok Kevin Saaristo Dave Thoma Mike Tobia	*Paul Rafuse Jeff Jones Paul Rhinhart Steve Trentsch
Lectors:	Doug Hoover	Gene Perko
Acolytes:		Andrew Thibeault
Counters:	Mary Ann Rafuse, Gene Perko	
Security	Kelly Gallivan	
Altar Care	TBA	