

Lenten Meditation – March 7, 2021

As we begin the third week of Lent, we join Jesus two and a half years into His earthly ministry. The crowds in every city and town have become immense. The resentment by the religious leaders has increasingly become more and more heated. But, the divine purpose of the Lord's mission has not changed. Heaven's program which Jesus declared two and one-half years prior in a synagogue in Nazareth remains the same, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me to preach the Good News..."

In one city near the Sea of Galilee, Jesus walked down to the beach and sat. A crowd followed and gathered around Him. The throng became so massive He got into a boat and rowed out a ways while His audience stood on shore. It was at this beachside service Jesus preached a sermon unveiling many spiritual mysteries. He revealed these truths in a way that only if you were sincere about learning would you understand. Jesus told six parables that day explaining how the Gospel is spread and why some accept His words and others reject. He made it very clear why good and evil co-exist and how destructive sin can be. He closed the service emphasizing how exceedingly valuable His message to the world is.

During this third week of Lent we reflect on those areas of our life that Jesus wants to cleanse. This whole period of Lent challenges us to rid ourselves of unhealthy desires and to portray the Lord's love and fairness to one another. We seek the Lord to open our eyes to see clearly how important and necessary The Resurrection is.

Let us Pray:

Heavenly Father, by Your Spirit guide us to know what pleases You. Open our hearts to Your love and Your forgiveness, and prepare us to be part of our resurrection when we meet You face to face. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Lent is a season of ever-decreasing light approaching His crucifixion. Light is gradually **extinguished** to symbolize the journey through the wilderness and toward the cross and tomb.

Written by Art Frank – Bush Creek Deacon Chair

Bush Creek Church of the Brethren

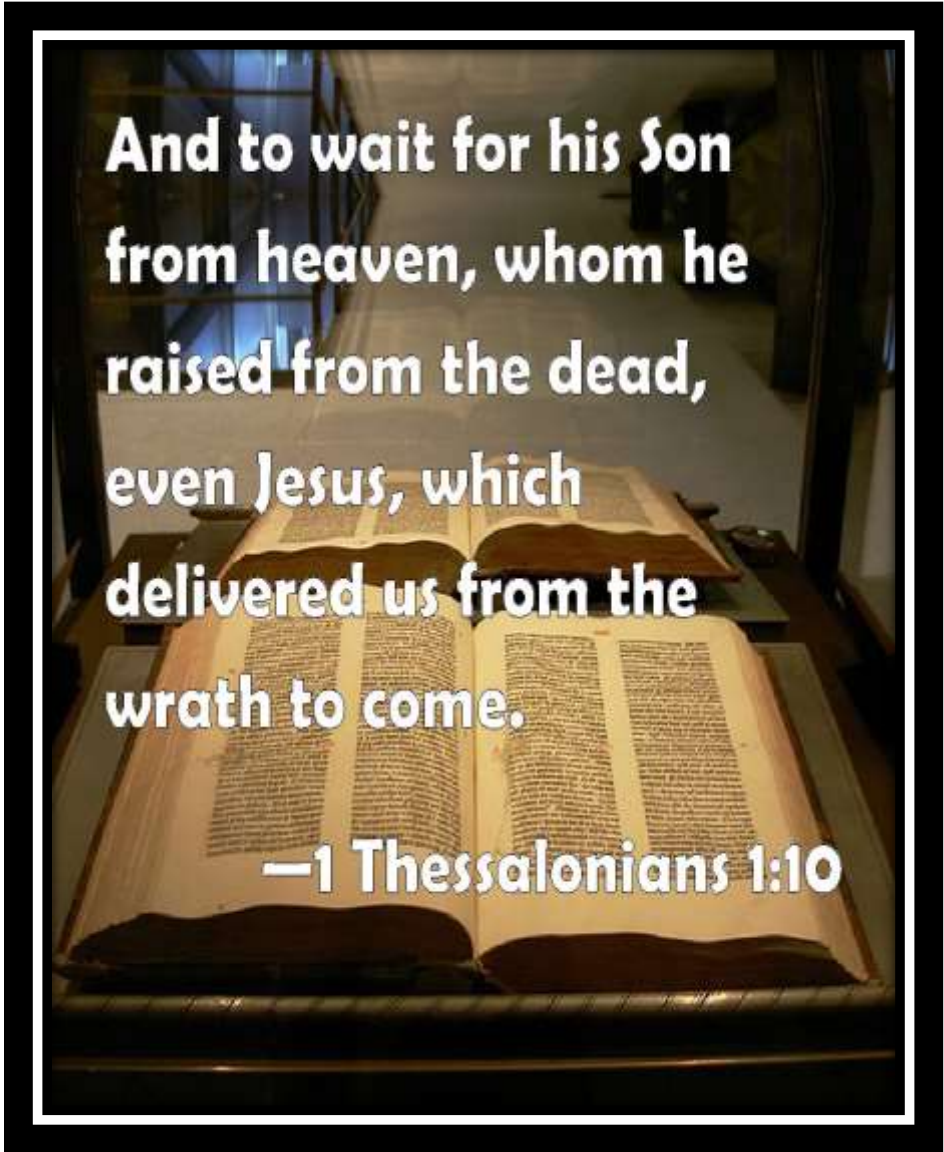
March 7, 2021

Interim Pastors:

Pastor Linda Lambert & Pastor Bill Caputo

Worship Assistant: Bob Farmer

Greeters: David and Dixie Brunner



**And to wait for his Son
from heaven, whom he
raised from the dead,
even Jesus, which
delivered us from the
wrath to come.**

—1 Thessalonians 1:10

GATHERING MUSIC

Elwood Hipkins

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**INVOCATION****Unison**

Shepherd God, be with us on this day and always. Guide our steps, that we might not stumble. Open our eyes, that we might see your glory. Warm our hearts, that we might feel your love. Bless our worship, that we might glorify your name. Amen.

INSTRUMENTAL MEDITATION

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross Linda Spohn

**LENTEN MEDITATION**

Jan Stitley

Please see back of bulletin

CHORAL RESPONSE Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died
 But You have brought me to Your side
 To be led by Your staff and rod
 And to be called a lamb of God

Chorus: Oh, Lamb of God, Sweet Lamb of God
 I love the Holy Lamb of God
 Oh, wash me in His precious Blood
 My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God

Children are now dismissed for Children's Church Worship in the fellowship hall with Jan Stitley.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Jack Green

*HYMN Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross vs. 1, 2, & 3 #617

BLESSING OF GIVING *Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
 Praise Him all creatures here below;
 Praise Him above ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS**PASTORAL PRAYER****SCRIPTURE**

Thessalonians 1:1-10

*MESSAGE Messiah Message Method Pastor Linda Lambert

*HYMN My Jesus, I Love Thee #522

*PASTORAL BENEDICTION Pastor Linda Lambert

*POSTLUDE Elwood Hipkins

Interim Pastoral Team Contact Info

Pastor Linda Lambert – 240-815-1216 (lindalambert1544@gmail.com)

Pastor Bill Caputo – 240-626-9657 (pbilltcob@comcast.net)

Bush Creek Church of the Brethren,
 4821A Green Valley Road, Monrovia, Maryland 21770
 301-865-3013 bushcreekchurch.org
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