

Sermon Notes

ST. MATTHEW

REboot

March 13 & 14, 2021

Reset Refresh Renew

Greetings Friends,

Ever since I was a kid, I have been intrigued by snakes. Growing up in the south and spending a lot of time outdoors and in the woods, I had a lot more interaction with snakes and quickly learned to tell the difference between the poisonous ones and the non-poisonous ones. In the Spring, I would search for them, pick them up, play with them.

But in the 25 years that I have been preaching, I have avoided this story in Numbers about snakes. I find it bizarre, weird and troublesome. I haven't been able to make sense of it. But since Jesus referred to it in our Gospel and used it as a lead in to the most famous verse in the Bible (John 3:16), I decided it was time to handle these snakes.

If you are uncomfortable around snakes, this might not be your Sunday! But, if you can set that discomfort aside, you will be treated to an insight about how the ancient Hebrew Bible reading from Numbers connects with the Gospel reading from John.

Grace and Peace,
Pastor Bill Hugo

WORSHIP NOTES: 10:00 a.m. service=The Children's Choir will respond to the great message of grace in the epistle lesson with a text and tune from the Ethiopian Evangelical Church. It ponders the question: "What kind of love is this" shown by Jesus to us on the cross? During the season of Lent, we continue to observe the "putting away" of the Song of Praise as well as our "alleluias". Many thanks to the choir, soloist Aubree Allen, percussionists Patti Kretschman and Parker Kyseth, the music team, and all other worship assistants for their leadership throughout the weekend. To God be the glory!

Prayers for the Week of March 14

Vera Klein was hospitalized and is now recuperating at home.
Mary Ebert will have surgery Monday.

GIVING TO THE LORD

Weekly Worship Attendance: 62
March Tithes & Offerings to date: \$14,253
March Budgeted Offerings: \$28,885

Bill Hugo, Pastor † Carol Blase, Coordinator of Music
Brenda Hugo, Coordinator of Children's Ministries † Faustina Allen, Director of Teen Ministries
Kathy Rosenberg, Parish Nurse † Sarai Kretschman, Pastoral Care Assistant † Martin Cornes, Vicar
Julie Allen, Office Manager † Julie Sventek, Director - DCLC - 763-789-4030

4101 Washington Street NE † Columbia Heights, MN 55421 †
www.stmatthew-ch.org † 763-788-9427

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Monday, March 15

6:30 PM FACILITIES & PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Tuesday, March 16

7:30 AM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY ONLINE

6:00 PM DISCIPLESHIP VISION BOARD

Wednesday, March 17

5:00 PM CHILDREN'S CHOIR

6:00 PM LENTEN SERVICE

6:30 PM GRIEF SHARE

7:00 PM TEEN MINISTRY

Thursday, March 18

9:30 AM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY IN WILLER ROOM & ON ZOOM

1:45 PM WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY ON ZOOM

6:30 PM YOUTH/ADULT CHOIR

7:30 PM FESTIVAL CHOIR

Saturday, March 20

5:30 PM WORSHIP IN-PERSON

Sunday, March 21

8:30 AM ADULT BIBLE CLASS on ZOOM

9:00 AM SUNDAY SCHOOL—YOUTH/CHILDREN

10:00 AM WORSHIP ONLINE & IN-PERSON

This month, the **Cancer Support Group** will be held on the fourth Thursday of the month, **March 24th, at 1:00 pm**. We will meet in person in the Willer Room with the option of joining in the meeting via Zoom. Please contact Sarai at sarai.kretschman@stmatthew-ch.org or with a phone call to the church office to RSVP.



Communion cups are available for pick up for anyone who would like to partake of communion as they watch the worship service online. Please call the church office at 763-788-9427.

TAKE HOME DETAILS AVAILABLE IN NARTHEX

Pick one up today!

ANNOUNCING...

Children's Ministries: (contact: brenda.hugo@stmatthew-ch.org)

RESERVE your free Passport Packets!

The Good Friday family event will be virtual this year, but you can participate from home! You will be able to watch the event on Good Friday (April 2), premiering at 1:00 P.M., via the St. Matthew Facebook and YouTube pages, **AND** participate in the virtual tour along with the virtual tour group, when you **reserve a Passport Packet** for your family. Can you view the event without the packet? Of course you can, but it's not as much fun. Here's what to do:

1. On or Before Wednesday, March 24, email Brenda or call the church office to reserve a FREE Passport Packet in your name.
2. State the number of children and adults who will be using the packet.
3. Pick up the packet from St. Matthew on/between Sunday, March 28 – Thursday, April 1 (*Curbside pick-up possible if you pick-up during office hours. If needed, earlier pick-up may be arranged with advance notice.*)
4. Open your Passport Packet immediately prior to viewing the virtual event, and use the items as instructed during your virtual tour.

Good Friday Family Event VOLUNTEERS (updated 3.11.21)

Last year the planned family event had to be cancelled because of Covid-19. It has been revised/adapted and will be a RECORDED/interactive event to be shown on St. Matthew Facebook and YouTube pages on Good Friday. There are several opportunities for volunteers:

- Costumer on filming day – Mar. 21, afternoon (*be sure actors receive their correct labeled costumes/props, assist with dressing as necessary*)
- Answer Person on filming day – Mar. 21, afternoon (*remind actors where to find costumes, direct folks to waiting areas, and tell groups when they are allowed in the filming area*)
- Set set-up (Saturday, March 20, 6:30 pm) – Help gather what is needed and set up canopies and curtains and miscellaneous lighting/props to get the set (in the gym) ready for recording
- Set take-down (Sunday, March 21, time tbd) – help take down and put away all set items after the recording session, so the gym is ready for day care use on Monday morning.

Brenda's contact info: brenda.hugo@stmatthew-ch.org or 763-788-9427, Tues-Thurs.