

May 10th Bulletin

Announcements...

- Masks still available on manse porch
- Online giving has been set up – www.cedarvilleunited.org
- Several people willing to do porch deliveries

Call to Worship: from Psalm 25

Pastor: Good and upright is the Lord;

People: *Therefore he instructs sinners in the way.*

Pastor: He leads the humble in what is right,

People: *And teaches the humble his way.*

Hymn – #374 Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his world rejoices;
who, from our mother's arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in his grace and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
the one eternal God whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Opening Prayer and Prayer of Confession

Scripture: Luke 8:1-3; John 20:1-20

Sermon Notes: *Living In The 'I Don't Know': Can You Recognize Jesus?*

- Who was Mary Magdalene?
 - Throughout the Middle Ages, painters depicted her as a woman of loose morals. It was not until more modern times (approx. 1969) that the Roman Catholic Church, the Eastern Orthodox Church, and the Protestant Church decided to revisit Mary and her story to get a more biblical picture.
 - The first thing we learn about Mary Magdalene is that Jesus freed her.
 - The second thing is that she gave her all.
 - The third thing is when Jesus speaks her name, her eyes are opened.

- Today:
 - Question #1: Can we hear Jesus speaking to us in this uncertain time? I don't mean audible voice of God, but do we cling to his promises in scripture?
 - Are we leaving time and space to hear from God?
 - Some are swamped – working from home is harder than going into work, or transitioning back to an office part-time or full-time, or it's just harder because of new restrictions...but have you found a way to pray? To listen to the Word when you're in the car?
 - Some are bored – are you taking more time for scripture and prayer?
 - Some are overwhelmed with media – lots of angry, contradictory voices. Is God's the one we listen to most frequently?
 - Question #2: How do we hear Jesus saying our name? Do we hear him calling to us lovingly, joyfully...or do we hear a disapproving voice? Do we hide from Jesus, much as Adam and Eve tried to hide from God, because we are afraid of condemnation?
 - Our names have been used in all sorts of ways.
 - Sometimes the enemy convinced us that God is using our name in a negative way. "Oh, here comes such and such, to confess yet again...great." "Here comes such and such, praying yet again for something I'm never going to give her or him." We convince ourselves that this is the way God sees us.
 - But it's not. When Jesus said, "Mary," her eyes were opened and she saw him for who he was. And I like to think that she saw herself for who she was as well.
 - So how do you think about yourself? How do see yourself?
 - We obviously need to see that we're sinners.
 - But do we also see ourselves as holy and dearly loved, as it says in Colossians?
 - Good time to go back and listen to Father's Love Letter (online everywhere)

Prayers of the People

- People sick around the world
- Front lines folks – expanding to family members of congregation
- Prayer list – feel free to text or email additions throughout the week

If you have prayer requests, please send them via Facebook Messenger or text me directly. Because we are live-streaming, please get permission before sending the request. Also, only first names will be mentioned and medical conditions will be kept deliberately vague. God knows who we are praying for and what's going on with the person. But since we don't know who all will be listening to this, we want to protect privacy.

Benediction