

From the Pews, Brian Donlan

Wisdom.

We aren't born with it.

We only gain it through experience and through the mentorship of others.

Psalms 90:12 encourages us to take the time to gain this wisdom, "Teach us to number our days, that we may gain a heart of wisdom."

Life is short and uncertain. If we weren't aware of this fact before we certainly are now as we all deal with current difficulties and an unknown future caused by the worldwide pandemic. It has certainly given us the opportunity to spend more time with immediate family, slowing down the pace of life, but it also makes us anxious about the future.

Will our loved ones be affected? Will there be a vaccine? Will we have school in the fall? When will things feel "normal" again?

Amongst all this uncertainty we can turn to God to seek wisdom on how to best get through each day. But it should not only be in times of need but everyday that we should seek His guidance, to make the most of our days, how ever many they may be.

"Our days may come to seventy years, or eighty, if our strength endures; yet the best of them are but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away (Psalm 90:10)."



Prayer of Preparation

"It is our human occupational hazard to settle for little... We settle for the fear-driven when love longs to be our engine. We settle for a puny, vindictive God when we are being nudged always closer to this wildly inclusive, larger-than-any-life God. We allow our sense of God to atrophy.

We settle for the illusion of separation when we are endlessly asked to enter into kinship with all."

Father Gregory Boyle

Gathering and Preparing for God's Word

Prelude *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* arr. Tedd Smith

Welcome and Announcements

Sentences of Scripture from Proverbs 2:1-5

My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding;
if you indeed cry out for insight,
and raise your voice for understanding;
if you seek it like silver,
and search for it as for hidden treasures—
then you will understand the fear of the Lord
and find the knowledge of God.

Hymn #307 *God of Grace and God of Glory* CWM RHONDDA
See hymn sheet.

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Holy God, you know all about our shallow faith, our tiny imagination, and our trivial wishes. We have justified our lives by measuring them against the standards of the world. We have forgotten your call to be courageous. Work within us today, so that we would look honestly at ourselves. Help us to admit our need for help. Forgive us for all that we have done that was foolish, and all that we left undone that would have been faithful.

Guide us toward new values, so that we would prioritize people over prosperity, and relationships over righteous opinions.

Open our ears and eyes to the wonder of your love and the movement of your Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Solo *Refuge and Strength* Hayes

Hearing God's Word

Prayer for Illumination
Gospel Lesson, *Luke 12:16-21*
Time for Children
Old Testament Lesson, *Psalms 90:1-6, 10, 12*
Homily "Teach Us to Count"

Responding to God's Word

Affirmation of Faith, from *The Confession of Belhar*

We believe that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;

that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;

that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and for the world.

Morning Prayers
The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.**

Hymn #749 *Come! Live in the Light!* WE ARE CALLED
See hymn sheet.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Rigaudon* Campra

Leading Worship this Morning

Ben Dorr, *preaching*
Lauren Slingerland, Mary Kathleen Duncan, *liturgists*
Nancy Smith, *organist*
Katie Knauer, *soloist*

307 God of Grace and God of Glory

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

This stirring hymn used at the opening of Riverside Church in New York in 1930 was penned by its widely-known and influential pastor, and it has gained a firm place in English-language hymnals around the world. The Welsh tune name honors the Rhondda Valley in Glamorganshire.

TEXT: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.7

749 Come! Live in the Light!

We Are Called

1 Come! Live in the light! Shine with the
 2 Come! O - pen your heart! Show your
 3 Sing! Sing a new song! Sing of that

joy and the love of the Lord! We are called
 mer - cy to all those in fear! We are called
 great day when all will be one! God will reign,

to be light for the king - dom, to live in the
 to be hope for the hope - less so ha - tred and
 and we'll walk with each oth - er as sis - ters and

free - dom of the cit - y of God.
 vio - lence will be no more.
 broth - ers u - nit - ed in love.

Refrain
 We are called to act with jus - tice; we are called to
 love ten - der - ly; we are called to serve one an -
 oth - er, to walk hum - bly with God.

The thematic and musical center of this hymn on the vocation of all believers is found in the refrain, which is based on the well-known challenge of Micah 6:8, "What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?"

TEXT and MUSIC: David Haas, 1988
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WE ARE CALLED
 Irregular