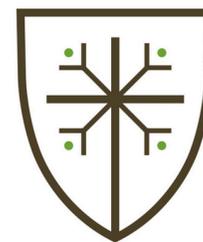


SERMON NOTES



March 22, 2026

A Whisper in the Wind

A STUDY OF THE BOOK OF ECCLESIASTES | LENT 2026 SERMON SERIES

SERMON INFO

TITLE

“Live in Light of the End”

PREACHER

Rev. David Vilches

TEXTS

Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14

Revelation 21:1-6

John 11:23-27, 38-44

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Where do you find yourself most often “looking to creation for what only the Creator can give?” How does the Preacher’s call to “remember your Creator” help combat this in a fallen world where it is so easy to do?
2. What does it look like to live as new creations in Christ now, in the “in between” time, as we wait for all things to be made new?

SERMON IN SUMMARY

This week, we wrapped up our Lenten series on the book of Ecclesiastes with a look at how we live in light of the end as Christians.

The Verb

The last chapter of Ecclesiastes begins with a verb - to remember. It is found in the form of a command, calling youth in particular to “remember your creator.” Remembering is not just a cognitive ascent, not just recollecting or calling to mind, but a physical response to a reality that surpasses time and is at the core of our identity. We are to remember who we are and whose we are and live in light of that reality. The Preacher addresses the young in particular as those who are just beginning to search for purpose and meaning in who they are, but his message rings true for all of us. We are made in the image of God and bear his name. He made us, cherishes us, and loves us. We do not have to look inside ourselves to find out who we are. If we want to know our purpose and significance, we must stop looking inside ourselves. Stop looking to the creation for what only the Creator can give.

The Poem

The Preacher substantiates the verb “remember” with a poem. He calls to mind the image of a house. Any home, even a new home, will inevitably age, decay, and become an old house. With that aging, we will experience storms. And just when you think the storm is gone, clouds will return. In addition to the storms, there will be more and more silence. Our body members - eyes, ears, mouth, strength, will become silent and begin to fail. Outwardly, your work, your tools, and the sounds of a full life will grow silent.

The second half of the poem turns a corner. Even though we age and things grow silent, we know that we are heading home. We are en route to our eternal home, a new eden where our heavenly Father welcomes us with open arms. Death comes to all humanity. But to a Christian, it is the entrance to an eternal rest where all is made new and whole again. If you are in Christ, this reality is true of you now. As Paul says, “In Christ, you are a new creation.” He does not say “you will be” or “you might be” but rather, “you are.” We are to live in light of having new life in Christ now.

The Preacher ends the book with a poem in order to give a voice to our experience of life under the sun. Poetic language reaches deeper within our imagination to show us that we have a God who goes there, who sees our pain. He wants us to see and feel and know that our Lord, the messenger, has not abandoned us. He is still at work in this once edenic world. God sees you and invites you to lament with hope. This is not the way it is supposed to be, and one day, all of the brokenness and death will be no more.

The End

What is a life well lived? According to the Preacher who echoes all of the biblical wisdom literature, it is to fear God and keep his commandments. The only way to get through life under the sun is by walking with God. It is our purpose, our end, our telos. We are to live in light of this end in our relationships, our homes, our work. And one day, when Christ returns, all things will be transformed and made new.