

TIME OF REFLECTION

“Something about the name Jesus
Something about the name Jesus
It is the sweetest name, I know”

~“Something About the Name Jesus”
by Rance Allen (1948-2020)

“We deserved death, wrath, and hell forever.... Jesus drank our hell.”

~Conrad Mbewe, Zambian pastor

“When we were dispersed like scattered sheep, and lost in the labyrinth of the world, Christ gathered us together again, that he might bring us back to himself.”

“Holiness is not a merit by which we can attain communion with God, but a gift of Christ, which enables us to cling to him, and to follow him.”

~John Calvin (1509-1564), French theologian, pastor and reformer

“The grace of God is love freely shown towards guilty sinners, contrary to their merit and indeed in defiance of their demerit. It is God showing goodness to persons who deserve only severity and had no reason to expect anything but severity.... [G]race means so little to some..., because they do not share the beliefs about God and man which it presupposes.”

“Grace is free in that it is self-originated, and of proceeding from One who was free not to be gracious.”

~J.I. Packer (1926-2020), English-born theologian

“It is the dogma that is the drama – not beautiful phrases, nor comforting sentiments, nor vague aspirations to loving-kindness and uplift, nor the promise of something nice after death – but the terrifying assertion that the same God who made the world lived in the world and passed through the grave and gate of death. Show that to the heathen, and they may not believe it; but at least they may realize that here is something that a man might be glad to believe.”

~Dorothy Sayers (1893-1957), English writer and poet

Worship through the Word

SERMON – “Walking with God: A Case Study from the Life of Joseph, Jesus’s Earthly Father”

– Rev. Don Willeman, Lead Pastor of Christ Redeemer Church of Hanover, NH

SERMON PASSAGE – *Matthew 1:1, 17-25; Micah 6:8 (NASB)*

Matthew 1

¹ The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham...

¹⁷ So all the generations from Abraham to David were fourteen generations, and from David to the deportation to Babylon fourteen generations, and from the deportation to Babylon to the Christ fourteen generations.

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

Micah 6

⁸ He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?