



Fourth Sunday of Lent

March 22, 2020

5 Habits of Highly Effective Christians:
Take the Gospel Perspective

Bell Ringing & Prelude

Confession

P: Most holy and merciful God,

**C: we confess to you and to one another,
and before the whole company of heaven,
that we have sinned by our fault,
by our own fault,
by our own most grievous fault,
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

*P: We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength.
We diminish our respect and awe of You by not putting our relationship with you
on the top of our priority list. We relegate You to being our god of convenient
comfort rather than Creator of the Cosmos, and so we limit the power you have
in our lives.*

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

*P: We let other voices and speak to us of fulfillment, hope and peace, tempting
us to turn away from the truth you offer us. And so, we have doubted your
presence, your power and your promise.*

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

*P: We have shut our ears to your call to love and serve others with the same
compassionate love and service Christ offers us. We have not been diligent in
staying keenly aware of how we can be a source of comfort, hope and
sustenance to those who suffer, despair and are deprived of what they need. We
have found security in protecting our abundant blessings.*

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

*P: We misuse and abuse the role you have given us in and over creation. We
exploit and squander the earth's resources without inconveniencing ourselves
with consideration for the sustainability of life in the future. We assume the
power of gods, but fail in seeking the Wisdom of God in the use of our power,
focusing too much on our satisfaction in this moment rather than
comprehending the full scope of our actions. We privilege our lives over the
lives of other creatures without respect for the depth of the interconnectedness
of all life.*

C: Have mercy on us, O God.

*P: We do not always own our own problems, nor do we take enough
responsibility for working to solve them. We scapegoat, we make excuses, we
get distracted. We do not bring them to you and open ourselves to the Spirit's
guidance through unexpected voices and resources. We become discontented
because we resign to empty contentment. We default to following the norm
rather than clinging to the distinction of being a Child of God.*

C: Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness 843



1 Praise the One who breaks the dark-ness with a lib - er - at - ing light;
 2 Praise the One who blessed the chil - dren with a strong yet gen - tle word;
 3 Praise the one true love in - car - nate: Christ, who suf - fered in our place;



praise the One who frees the pris - ners, turn - ing blind - ness in - to sight.
 praise the One who drove out de - mons with a pierc - ing, two - edged sword.
 Je - sus died and rose for man - y that we may know God by grace.



Praise the One who preached the gos - pel, heal - ing ev - 'ry dread dis - ease,
 Praise the One who brings cool wa - ter to the des - ert's burn - ing sand;
 Let us sing for joy and glad - ness, see - ing what our God has done.



calm - ing storms and feed - ing thou - sands with the ver - y bread of peace.
 from this well comes liv - ing wa - ter quench - ing thirst in ev - 'ry land.
 Praise the one re - deem - ing glo - ry; praise the One who makes us one.



Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you

P: Let us pray: Heavenly Father,

C: your wisdom is not our wisdom, your ways are not our ways, and so you call us to listen to your word and follow your ways. Send us the Spirit, that we will seek to align our minds with your mind and our wills with your will. Give us eyes to see what others see, but not as others see it. Open us to a view of life focused through the lens of the sacrifice of the cross; a living from the evaluative point of view of unbounded compassion, grace and love. We pray this in the name of the one whose vision of all people was informed by his unwavering hope of the liberation promised by the coming of God's Kingdom, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

First Lesson

Philippians 2

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any fellowship in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy . . . have the same evaluative point of view, the same love, be of one mind by sharing a singular evaluative point of view. Do not be motivated by selfish ambition or conceit, but, after a humble reflection on who you are, see that there is no reason you cannot lift up others in your eyes. Do not become so self-absorbed that you are not considering others! This is the evaluative point of view that was in Christ - so it should be your evaluative point of view, too. Our Christ was God, but he did not count being God of real value for his mission and goal, so he stepped away from the benefits of being God and undertook the life of a servant leader, like you and I, humbling himself as a human being and being obedient to the Father's will, going so far as to die a death on a cross. But, because Christ did all of this, God raised him up and gave him a name that is above all other names. Now, at the name of Jesus everything will bow down; everything heavenly, earthly and hellish. And every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, giving glory to God the Father.

L: The Word of the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Gospel Acclamation

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 10th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

The Good Samaritan

And behold, a lawyer stood up to test Jesus . . .
and the lawyer asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now, by chance a priest was going down that road and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So, likewise, a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But, a Samaritan while traveling came near him and when he saw him, he was compassionate and having approached, he bandaged his wounds, pouring oil and wine on them and having placed him on the animal, led him to an inn and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii (about the equivalent of \$200 today), gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.'"

Jesus then asked the lawyer, "Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?"

The Lawyer said, "The one who showed him mercy."

Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

P: *The Gospel of our Lord!*

C: **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

O Savior, Precious Savior

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1 O Sav - ior, pre - cious Sav - ior, whom yet un - seen we love;
 2 O bring - er of sal - va - tion, who won - drous - ly hast wrought,
 3 In thee all full - ness dwell - eth, all grace and pow'r di - vine;
 4 Oh, grant the con - sum - ma - tion of this our song a - bove,

O name of might and fa - vor, all oth - er names a - bove:
 thy - self the rev - e - la - tion of love be - yond our thought:
 the glo - ry that ex - cel - leth, O Son of God, is thine.
 in end - less ad - o - ra - tion and ev - er - last - ing love;

we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 we wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 We wor - ship thee; we bless thee; to thee a - lone we sing;
 then shall we praise and bless thee where per - fect prais - es ring,

we praise thee and con - fess thee, our ho - ly Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our gra - cious Lord and King.
 we praise thee and con - fess thee, our glo - rious Lord and King.
 and ev - er - more con - fess thee, our Sav - ior and our King!

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

ONGOING PRAYERS - We pray for Richard Black (*in Assisted Living*), Bob Cruickshank (*dealing with physical weakness*), Erno & Gerda Fodi (*in Nursing Care*), Cheryl Kellogg (*recovering from surgery*), Nel Kennedy (*recovering from surgery*), Peg Lindblom (*back pain*), Mary Perry (*convalescing at home*), Art Schroder (*in rehab*), Walter Straub (*breathing issues*) and Gene Yetter.

KEEPING UPDATED WITH CURRENT INFORMATION – We are making every effort to keep everyone at Grace updated with the most current

information. In order to avoid overwhelming everyone with excessive emails & phone calls, our plan going forward is to have an update from our Church Council emailed out to the congregation **every Friday morning**.

Additionally, as most of you have already seen, we are reformatting the layout of our prayer list emails. For the foreseeable future, our prayer list will be emailed out each night at 8:00 p.m. If you have any information that you would like added to the prayer list, please email Doug Jenkins at prayerlist@graceyorktown.org.

Our Thursday Bible Studies will be moving to video conferencing each week so that we can still meet for study. An email will be going out to those of you who are “normal” attendees of these Bible studies with instructions on how to connect to the video conferences. If you would like to be included in these Bible studies, please email the church office so that your name can be added to the list.

Our Wednesday Evening Taize Services and our regular Sunday worship services will continue to be broadcast via our Facebook private group page and our YouTube channel. Copies of the bulletins for each service will be emailed to everyone so that you have them to refer to during the worship services.

VIRUS BUDDIES – Thank you to everyone who has contacted us to sign up as a virus buddy. Calls have already been going out to those in our congregation who are most vulnerable. We could still use a few more volunteers to serve as back-ups. If you are interested, please email the church office at office@graceyorktown.org.

Our office is working to keep track of how all Grace folks are doing, so please let Pastor Chris know if your status changes so we can pray, reach out, and stay connected. You can reach Pastor Chris at 914-223-0995.

SOUP CAN DONATIONS – We still have a collection bin outside the church where you can drop off soup cans (we are collecting soup ONLY) that we can then deliver to anyone who may need them. This is an easy way to help our community and we encourage you to drop off cans anytime.

Grace Lutheran Church

Christopher Chantelau, *Pastor* • Becki Advocate, *Dir. of Music*

Kristen Halderman, *Parish Administrator* • Vinnie Tipa, *Sexton*

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