



The Shepherd's Voice

January 29, 2013

By Fr. Joe Rees

'Physician, heal yourself!'

“And Jesus said to them, ‘Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, ‘Physician, heal yourself’. What we have heard you did at Capernaum, do here in your hometown as well.” And He said, ‘Truly, I say to you, no prophet is acceptable in his hometown.’”

Luke 4: 23-24.

Doctors don't always take care of themselves, do they?! I even remember a doctor once in our congregation who was always taking care of others in emergency rooms but died not realizing he needed immediate care and help from another doctor. He diagnosed himself, but too late. He couldn't heal himself. Sometimes clergy are that way too. We take care of others but sometimes don't take care of ourselves or our families. I'm particularly careful in this arena to listen to my wife who says, “No, that's your day off and you need to take it or else you'll burn out!” A wise husband listens to his wife...who is definitely looking out for him! Just so, I know I can't do it all; can't heal anyone without Christ, or give care and prayer without having a balance that comes from deep personal retreating into prayer with the Spirit of God, or preach God's Word without first having heard it from the Lord and preached it to myself! We need to be in the hands of God, willingly submitting to Him, like being in His tractor-beam, pulling us in to His heart of love and energizing us for ministry we go out to do. It must be of His will and empowered by His Spirit.

I think our Lord Jesus was being challenged here by the leaders of the synagogue and men in attendance. He was known to have done miracles of healing in Capernaum, so they were taunting Him to do that in front of their eyes. Jesus knew that. In a moment of sarcasm perhaps, Jesus quotes a proverb of the day, probably saying what they were thinking anyway! He knows that they were unbelieving that

God could do mighty works there in the midst of His own townspeople. Moreover, Jesus points out the two cases in which God chose Gentiles (Widow of Zarephath & Naaman the Syria) to do miracles with in spite of the 'chosen-ones' who doubted and were unbelieving. This fills them with rage and they want to 'throw Him down the cliff'! Jesus cuts through the furor and leaves them to ponder their loss for not believing God's providence in and through Him. I wonder if they thought after He left them, “Is this ‘The Physician’ (Messiah) who really has healing in Himself, who is capable of miracles and doesn't need any healing for Himself because He is of God's own substance??!” Or, did they likely just think in their ignorance of the facts that He was just a fraud! In their denigrating criticism of Him, surely He would not do anything in this 'hometown'! If you were of that town you might have heard the gossip of the streets, “Isn't this Joseph's son, trying to be high and mighty again?! Who does he think he is?!”

Jesus knew who He was and what He had to do to fulfill His mission for the Father. It wasn't to just do miracle after miracle of healing people, although He did. He was there for one reason, 'to bring the saving power of God's love to rescue people from sin and death!' And in that journey there would be a cross, a grave, and eventually an empty tomb. He is indeed His own physician who raises Himself from the dead and defeats the age old enemy of God, Satan. His purpose was to give us the antidote that He purchased with His blood shed for each of us. He gave us the medicine when we desperately needed it to live. He empowered us in His Spirit to resurrect us from the old ways of rebellion and diseased destruction of ourselves. He gives us the energizing zeal of promised eternal life that has its own tractor-beam of hope. Where then is His hometown? It is anywhere and everywhere that He is received into the hearts and minds of those who believe that He is our Great Physician! Then, He

will do miracles. In us, He will do miracles. With us, he will do mighty works that will lead us to say to others... 'We know you need our Great and Glorious Physician who gives His healing freely.' Knowing our salvation is indeed, freedom. Knowing Jesus, we will know His love for others, even for those who are unbelieving. Knowing Jesus, we will have true freedom of new life and health and joy for our journey!

May the freedom of Jesus' healing love greet you this day and empower you to give His healing love away.

Love in and under Christ's Healing Wings,
Fr. Joe

Sunday Servers this week...

February 3, 2013		8:00 a.m. Service	10:15 a.m. Service
First Reader		Kay Focke	Jim Livingston
Psalm Reader		Choir	Ann Fox
Second Reader		Alfred Focke	Stephen Painter
Intercessor		Thor Strom	Mitch Dubski
Lay Euch. Ministers		John & Myrna Lipnicke	Cline Handy, Jackie Lansing
Acolytes		Thor Strom	Kaylie M (C); Mitch D (T1); Emilie M (T2)
Welcomers		Maureen Green, Cheryl Martel	Cheryl Martel, Myrna Lipnicke
Ushers		Dick Sholly, David Green	Dink Nash, Ted Vallas, JR Fox, April Knowles
Vestry Person of Day	Jackie Lansing		
Healing Ministers		Rudy Theobald, Jan Simon	Petey Seibold, Kari Campbell
Announcer		Jani Dubski	Alex Teixeira

The Bishop is coming!

Bishop Bill Thompson will be at Grace on February 17th. If you want to be baptized, confirmed, or received while the Bishop is here, please contact the church office.

Tuesdays in January and Beyond

Jan. 29, Feb. 5th and Feb. 26-Mar. 19th
Donna Brayton's life-changing course on the Sermon on the Mount continues this Tuesday, February 5 with a potluck @ 6:30PM. This is Jesus' powerful teaching on how to live as a truly committed follower of Christ in community with others. Be sure to sign up at the book table in the Narthex. Come at 6:30 p.m. with food to share and stay for this wonderful series.



Cursillo Grand Ultreya

Saturday, February 2, 2013
Grace Anglican Church
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Come one, come all

This Ultreya also serves as the Annual meeting in which the election of Secretariat members will be held. We will be saying farewell to those Secretariat members who have completed their term of office. The Secretariat welcomes nominations for those who would be willing to serve.

Come and bring a friend for worship, fellowship and fun.
Light refreshments will be served.

Sunday at Grace

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
with choir
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Adult Forum
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with'
Worship Team
10:15 a.m. Children's Church

Cursillo *Grand Ultreya* *Feb. 2nd* *1-4p.m.*

Readings for Sunday

Jeremiah 1:4-10
Psalm 71:1-17
1 Corinthians 14:1-20
Luke 4:21-32

We are using the English Standard
Version of the Bible and the Lectionary
from the Book of Common Prayer
(Year C)

This Week at Grace –Jan. 29-Feb. 5, 2013

Tues. January 29

- 11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing Prayer & Eucharist at CHC
6:30 p.m. Potluck Fellowship Dinner
7:00 p.m. Donna's Sermon on the Mount Teaching

Wed January 30

- 8:30 a.m. Morning Prayer & Eucharist
9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. Youth Group

Thurs. January 31

- 6:15 a.m. Br. Benno's Team
7:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:00 a.m. Sr. Women's Fellowship at Ruth Yahn's
11:30 a.m. Holy Eucharist at the Oasis
3:30 p.m. Alpha Club
7:00 p.m. Choir rehearsal

Fri. February 1

- Fr. Joe's day off
6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer & Eucharist at Grace

Sat. February 2

- 8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship – Suite T
9:00 a.m. Cursillo Parish Rep. Meeting
12:00 p.m. Kingdom Conference Planning Meeting
1-4 p.m. Cursillo Grand Ultreya

Sun. February 3

- 8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist w. Choir
9:30 a.m. Fellowship
10:00 a.m. Nursery opens
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist with Worship Team
Noon-3 Youth Catechesis

Mon. February 4

- 6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer

Tues. February 5

- 11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Healing prayer & Eucharist at CHC
6:30 p.m. Fellowship Potluck Supper
7:00 p.m. Donna Brayton's class on
The Sermon on the Mount.

Rector's Bible Study

Tuesdays

11:30 a.m.

Fr. Joe is leading the group through a study of
the Book of Isaiah. Everyone is welcome.
B.Y.O.L. (Bring your own lunch)

Wednesdays at 8:30 a.m.
Morning Prayer At Grace Anglican
All are welcome to attend.

Weekly – There are over 25 small groups meeting
during the week. Check our newsletter for a list of
all the groups or you can find the list on our website:
www.graceanglicanchurch.com.

Save the date!

- Feb. 2 Grand Ultreya at Grace-1:30 p.m.
Feb. 3 Youth Catachesis – Noon to 2:00 p.m.
Feb. 6 Soaking Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 9 Prayers & Squares – 9:30 a.m.
Feb. 10 – One service at 9:00 a.m. with Baptism of
Talon Dannenberger – brunch to follow.
Feb. 12 Shrove Tuesday fun and frivolity
Feb. 13 Ash Wed. Services at noon and 7:00 p.m.
Feb. 15 Contemplative Prayer – 6:30 p.m.
Feb. 16&17 Bishop Bill at Grace
Feb. 20 Vestry Meeting
Feb. 23 Combined Vestry Retreat at Grace
Mar. 9 Daylight Savings Time –set clocks forward.
Mar. 24 Palm Sunday
Mar. 28 Maundy Thursday – Foot Washing service
Mar. 29 Good Friday Services – Noon and 7:00 p.m.
Mar. 30 Holy Saturday – Great Vigil of Easter
Mar. 31 Easter Sunday
May 3 Anglican Men's Retreat at Forest Home