



# The Shepherd's Voice

July 10, 2012

By Fr. Joe Rees

## 'We Are The *Sent* Ones!'

And Jesus said, **“Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.”** Mark 6: 10-11

It seems like a different world, a strange culture, a place far, far away. Jesus told His disciples those words above. Would there ever be a chance that could be real for us? Jesus *sent them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean (demonic) spirits*. Jesus was the sender. He gave them authority. He knew they needed each other. It wasn't to be a lone-ranger effort. Jesus knew that this would grow His Church. He sent them on mission and if they weren't received they were to move on, leaving the dust behind. Today, we find it too invasive or confrontational to go out with the Message of Jesus, even to our neighbors. And I ask, 'why is that?'

And yet, time has not changed His intention for reaching the lost, those who do not believe, those who if they die, likely will never go to heaven.

The disciples weren't supposed to be well funded or specially dressed or have a slick program or cool sales pitch. They were simply to tell the people they met about Jesus the Messiah, the one who brought near to them the Kingdom of God. They were to ask the people they approached to “repent” or change the way they were thinking about God and follow Jesus Christ's way. I imagine if I were one of the disciples then that I would have a certain nervousness or anxiety about whether people would receive this news. It was Good News after all, but, what reaction would they have? What if they didn't like what I had to say, or, got rude and called me names, hustling me out of their presence? True enough, there were those obstacles then and they

are still there today. However, the Lord taught me a long time ago that it's not 'my' message I'm to give, but His. I'm simply there to 'proclaim it'! They are His Words and He'll back them up. When I'm an agent for Jesus, it's His Person that I'm representing. So being sent out and walking a neighborhood or greeting people in driveways became much easier since this was Jesus' Word of Good News.

We walked a neighborhood of the church a couple of weekends ago, (only a few turned out), and passing out the small booklets of the Gospel of John we prayed the Lord would find a way to engage the people in searching the Word to find the Truth, the Way, and the best Life they could ever actually 'know'. It's the life of Jesus that will give them all of what they need and satisfy their hearts desire. We'll walk the neighborhoods again soon. We need more of you to turn out though. It really wasn't confrontational or any kind of 'in your face' knocking on the doors kind of hard sell. It was gentle. It was peaceful. It was a nice prayer walk. I believe that the Lord seeing what we were doing said, “I won't forget your efforts and in fact I will bless you for them.”

Jesus is still the 'Sender' and He still gives us 'authority'...we just need to proclaim Him. We are His 'Sent ones'.

I'm simply asking if you would consider joining in the 'two by two' for Jesus. It's what His disciples did. It continues to be what He wants His disciples to do. Let's 'just do it'!

May the Lord bless our going out for Him to seek those that need His Gospel and proclaim His Good News of salvation.

Love from Jesus,  
Fr. Joe

P.S. An opportunity just arose for this coming Monday evening. An evangelistic show troupe of teen girls will come to Grace to perform their parables in modern light starting at 7pm. I know

it's last minute but it's an opportunity to bring someone to hear the Gospel. That's July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM.

**Sunday Servers this week...**

July 15, 2012	7 Pentecost	8:00 a.m. Service	10:15 a.m. Service
First Reader	Amos 7:7-15	Robbin Gates	Pat Seelig
Psalm Reader	Psaljm 85:7-13	Choir	Joy Rosendale
Second Reader	Ephesians 1:1-14	Paula Sholly	John Gerhart
Intercessor		Mitch Dubski	Joy Rosendale
Lay Euch. Ministers		Myrna & John Lipnicke	Frances Slaughter, Petey Seibold
Acolytes		Mitch Dubski	Joy R.(C), Zachary J. (T1), Dasiahmarie V. (T2)
Welcomers		Myrna Lipnicke	Margaret Olson, Jeanne Shannon, Myrna Lipnicke
Ushers		Rob Ackerman, Dick Sholly	Dink Nash, Ted Vallas, JR Fox, April Knowles
Vestry Person of Day			William Culbreth
Healing Ministers		Rudy Theobald & Jan Simon	Connie F, Sarah F, Trish S, Judy T
Counters			Cline Handy & Michael Murphy



# Soaking Prayer

with Holy Communion

July 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Bring a pillow and your blanket. Wear comfortable clothes and come prepared to soak in the presence of the Lord as you listen to soft music and hear Scripture read.

# All Church Picnic

Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m.

Buddy Todd Park in Oceanside

We will provide the hamburgers, hot dogs, buns, & bottled water.  
You bring your lawn chair or blanket, salad, or beans, or dessert or ... to share.

Fun and games for the whole family.

If you have a portable shade structure that you would be willing to set up, please bring that.

## Sunday at Grace

8:00 a.m.- Holy Eucharist Service  
9:30 a.m.- Fellowship  
10:00 a.m.- No Sunday School  
10:15 a.m. – Holy Eucharist  
Service with Worship Team

## Family Friendly Event

## All Church Picnic

Buddy Todd Park

12:30 p.m. Sunday

## Readings for Sunday

Amos 7:7-15  
Psalm 85  
Ephesians 1:1-14  
Mark 6:7-13

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

### This Week at Grace –July 10- July 17, 2012

#### Tues. July 10

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study -Revelation  
4:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist at the Oasis

#### Wed July 11

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

#### Thurs. July 12

7:00 a.m. – Bible Study  
8:00 a.m. Clergy Meeting  
10-Noon Play Group  
11:30 a.m. Healing Eucharist – Oasis

#### Fri. July 13

Fr. Joe's Day Off

#### Sat. July 14

8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study  
9:30 a.m. Sewing of Bible holders for chairs

#### Sun. July 15

8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service  
9:30 a.m. Fellowship  
10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service/ Worship Team

#### Mon. July 16

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer  
7:00 p.m. Solid Stage Footlights in Concert  
(See attached flyer)

#### Tues. July 17

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study at Grace  
4:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist at the Oasis

**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](http://www.graceanglicanchurch.com).

Saturday, July 14<sup>th</sup> – We are still working on the Bible holders for the chairs in the church. Bring your sewing machine and your lunch and help sew. We also need people to cut the fabric out. Everyone is welcome to help. We got a lot done last Saturday but we still have more to go. Please come help us if you can.

Rector's Bible Study  
Tuesdays  
11:30 a.m.

B.Y.O.L. (Bring your own lunch)

Fr. Joe is leading the group through a study of the Book of Revelation.

Everyone is welcome.

## Save the date!

July 11 Soaking Prayer  
July 14 Men's Bible Study  
July 14 Prayers & Squares  
July 15 **All Church Picnic at Buddy Todd Park**  
July 16 7:00 p.m. – Solid Stage Footlights Concert  
July 18 Br. Benno's Team at 6:25 a.m.  
July 21 Men's Fellowship  
July 22 Small Group Leaders Meeting  
July 28 Men's Bible Study