



The Shepherd's Voice

August 7, 2012

By Fr. Joe Rees

“Look Upon the Son, and Believe!”

“For this is the will of My Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in Him *shall* have eternal life, and I will raise him/her up on the last day.” John 6: 40

Jesus has just shared with His disciples and us that He is the living bread which if anyone comes to Him and eats of this bread they will live forever. Jesus says we will not hunger or thirst. And He says, “All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out.” (vs. 37). Now, Jesus’ Voice, our great Shepherd, says to us that we who look upon Him and believe...very simply...WILL have eternal life! He will raise us up on our last day, or on the last day of His will for creation, whichever comes first. This coming Sunday’s Gospel lesson from John 6: 37-51 is my hope and yours.

Take heart in this wonderful promise! It’s for all of us to celebrate and to commend to others who do not have this blessed assurance. Now is the time to share this with someone you know. Give them this article as it may help (forward by email), let your friends know that this is the Truth of all folks who believe in Jesus. Two steps here... Look and then Believe! Look into the life of Jesus. Look at His promises given to those who know and believe in Him. Look at what He has done for us in His death upon the cross for us. Look at His resurrection to life and His Word of victory given to us. Look deeply at Jesus...”Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in His wonderful face, and the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace”—the song lyrics say. Yes, open your eyes to Jesus. He is such a wonderful God whom we serve. Take heart. Take courage. Know that this promise is backed up by His resurrection and ascension and His rule in heaven. He’s the narrow gate. He’s the Person you’ll see as you rise into

heaven. He will call each of us home to be with Him forever.

Today, I spoke these promises again to Jan Mehl of our congregation as she lies in weakness and nearing her time to go home to be with the Lord. I spoke that ultimate promise of John 14:1-7 to her to bolster her spirit and ready her for her homecoming. Brint and Cindy were there as we prayed for the Lord to come and relieve her of her pain, receive her into His blessed arms of love, and take her home. Yes, Lord, we believe that You are the Life that will raise us up on our last day. Believe as Jan has believed. Believe as her family believes. Believe because Jesus is the only way to eternal life that is backed up by the fact of His resurrection. And He’ll give this as a free gift to anyone who simply will Look & Believe! Believe, and the Lord will enable you to trust in Him as His Spirit gives you peace in your decision. His Spirit will guide you in believing. Believe for the time is short, often shorter than we think. Believe and be assured of your rightful place in God’s heaven filled with eternal joys and peace!

We’ll miss Jan Mehl for sure, her faithful every-Sunday attendance at church and activities, but, we’ll know she will be reunited with those she loves in heaven and enjoy the greater company of all the saints in the presence of her Lord Jesus. Let’s pray her home today as we join with their family in this vigil of love and support. Let’s lift Jan up to the Lord Jesus and place her in His arms. Thank you Lord Jesus for such a faithful soul on earth that witnessed of Your saving grace and love. Thank you Lord that we will meet her again when You raise us up on the last day.

Jesus be glorified in those who Look upon You and Believe!

Faithfully yours in Christ's Promises and Love,
Fr. Joe

“believe” and as a reward to those who do so. So, it's better to see this word as ‘shall’ as in guaranteed, or in a sense of one who really ‘should’ or ‘ought by rightful heir’ receive eternal life. In Greek, it is the present subjunctive active form of the verb has the force of ‘will be entitled to have’ while sounding like ‘may have’. Thus, I translate it...”Shall”!

P.S. In the ESV version, in our pew Bibles, the word used for ‘shall’ in my quoting the verse above is rendered ‘should’. In other translations that word is ‘will’ or ‘shall’. The ‘should’ in the ESV is not used in a conditional, if you’ve been good enough, way. It’s used in relation to “look upon” and

Sunday Servers this week...

August 12, 2012	BCP-Proper 13	9:00 a.m. – One Service	
First Reader	Deuteronomy 8:1-10	Pat Richardson	
Psalm Reader	Psalm 34	Choir	
Second Reader	Ephesians 4:25:-5:2	Pat Seelig	
Intercessor		Chris Kilby	
Lay Euch. Ministers		Cline Handy, Jeanne Shannon	
Acolytes		Chris K. (C), David A. (T1), Zachary J (T2)	
Welcomers		Maureen Green, Carolyn Blumberg, Joan Gast	
Ushers		Dink Nash, Ted Vallas, JR Fox, April Knowles	
Vestry Person of Day		Richard Rieder	
Healing Ministers		Sarah Fuller, Kari Campbell, Donna Sandner, Petey Seibold	
Counters		Cline Handy, Michael Murphy	

Did you know?

There's a new service of Evening Prayer and Healing on Friday evenings at 5:00 p.m. Stop by on your way home from work.

Soaking Prayer

Wednesday, August 8

6:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 12th

Second Sunday

One service at 9:00 a.m.

Many of the surveys that were returned asked for some combined services so we can all get to know each other better. Sunday, August 12th will be the first of those Sundays. Come early while it's still cool outside and worship with the whole church together. We will have lots of refreshments after the service.

Sunday, August 19th

Beach Day at Del Mar Beach on Camp Pendleton from 1-3 p.m.

Sunday at Grace

9:00 a.m. – One Service with
Worship Team

10:30 a.m. - Fellowship

Sunday, August 19th
Special
All Parish Meeting
at 9:30 a.m.

Readings for Sunday

Deuteronomy 8:1-10

Psalm 34

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

John 6:37-51

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 –August 7-August 14

Tues. August 7

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study -Revelation

4:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist at the Oasis

Wed August 8

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. Soaking Prayer

Thurs. August 9

7:00 a.m. – Bible Study

8:00 a.m. No Clergy Meeting

10-Noon Play Group

11:30 a.m. Healing Eucharist – Oasis

Fri. August 10

Fr. Joe's Day Off

5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer and Healing

Sat. August 11

8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship

No Prayers & Squares this month

Sun. August 12

9:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Service –**One Service**

10:45 a.m. Fellowship

Mon. August 13

6:30 a.m. Men's Prayer

Tues. August 14

11:30 a.m. Rector's Bible Study at Grace

4:30 p.m. Healing Eucharist at the Oasis

6-8 p.m. Scentsy Candle fund raiser party

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.

Rector's Bible Study

Tuesdays

11:30 a.m.

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

Sunday Refreshments Between Services

We have a group of faithful volunteers who provide the refreshments each Sunday on a rotating basis. We need more people to offer to help as some of these people are getting tired. Please call the church office if you would be willing to provide some of the Sunday refreshments on a once-a-month basis.

Save the date!

Aug. 8 Soaking Prayer

Aug. 14 Scentsy Candle Party/Fundraiser for Family Friendly Ministry

Aug. 18 9-3 Men's Cursillo Team meeting

Aug. 19 Congregational Meeting at 9:30 a.m.

Aug. 19 Beach Day

at Del Mar Beach, Camp Pendleton

Sept. 15 Diocesan Convention

Sept. 19 Vestry meeting

Sept. 20-23 Men's Cursillo

Sept. 23 Benefit Concert at Grace for CHC

Sept. 27-30 Women's Cursillo

Oct. 3 Healing Prayer

Oct. 6 Blessing of the Animals

Oct. 10 Soaking Prayer

Oct. 17 Vestry meeting

Nov. 10 2:00 p.m. – Helen Fritz Memorial Service

Nov. 12 Mike Endicott – OSL Healing Conference at Grace Anglican Church