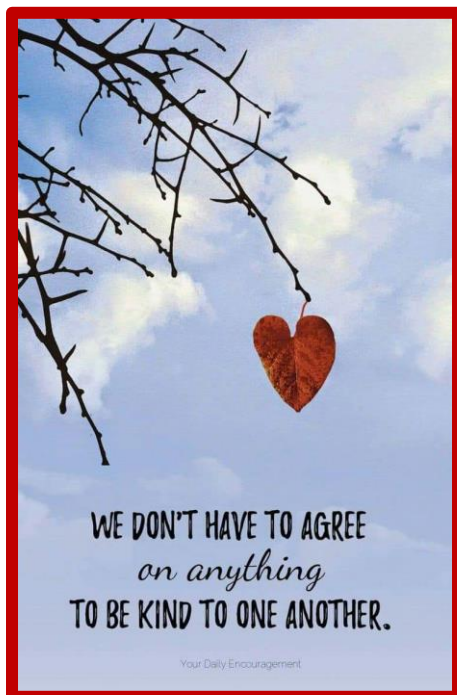


SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022

Caldwell United Methodist Church, 8 Academy Road, Caldwell, N. J. 07006
Rev. Vivian L. Rodeffer, Pastor

7TH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

Ms. Maxine Alstrom, Music Director



WELCOME AND INVOCATION

Pastor Viv

Gracious and Loving God, through your Holy Spirit open our hearts and minds to your transforming word in worship that we may experience anew the height and depth and breadth of your love and be inspired to live as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

(based on Psalm 37:3-5, 7, 39)

Trust in the LORD, take delight in the LORD, commit your way to the LORD.

We trust in God, who acts with justice and shines God's light.

Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for God.

Our salvation comes from the LORD, who is our refuge and our strength.

***HYMN #102**

"Now Thank We All Our God"

1. Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
 Who wondrous things has done, in Whom this world rejoices;
 Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
 With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2. Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed;
And guard us through all ills in this world, till the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him Who reigns with Them in highest Heaven—
The one eternal God, Whom earth and Heav'n adore;
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God, you call us to your love freely given without expectation or strings attached.

While we are eager to experience your mercy and grace in our own lives, we would rather extend grace to those who will show us grace in return. We would rather love those who are easiest to love. Forgive us, Redeeming God. So transform our hearts with your amazing grace and unconditional love that our relationships are transformed as we extend your mercy and grace as an expression of our gratitude for your saving love we know in Jesus Christ.

A time for silent confession.

God's grace overflows and brings us new life. Friends, trust the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God. **Amen**

SCRIPTURE

LUKE 6: 27-38

Jeannie Laureano, Reader

²⁷ "But I say to you that listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

THE MESSAGE THROUGH JESUS' EYES: SEEING OTHERS DIFFERENTLY

“Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.” v.36

DEDICATION OF OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
 Praise God all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God the source of all our gifts!
 Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
 Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE MORNING PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER Pastor Karen

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.

***HYMN #389**

“Freely, Freely”

1. God forgave my sin in Jesus' name
 I've been born again in Jesus' name
 And in Jesus' name I come to you
 To share His love as He told me to
 He said, "Freely, freely you have received
 Freely, freely give
 Go in my name, and because you believe
 Others will know that I live"

2. All power is given' in Jesus' name
 In earth and Heaven in Jesus' name
 And in Jesus' name I come to you
 To share His power as He told me to
 4. He said, "Freely, freely you have received
 Freely, freely give

Go in my name, and because you believe
Others will know that I live"

***BENEDICTION**

Jesus calls us to live as his faithful disciples: to love our enemies, to do good expecting nothing in return, offering mercy and forgiveness to others just as God is merciful and forgives. Friends, live into our high calling in Jesus Christ. And go with the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit — our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. **Amen.**

CALENDAR

Don't forget to turn in your Commitment Card by this Friday! Thank you!

Monday, February 21

**PRESIDENTS' DAY –OFFICE CLOSED
NO Zoom Prayer/Discussion Group
7 PM Church Council**

Tuesday, February 22

**4 PM Bell Choir Practice
7 PM Choir Practice**

Wednesday, February 23

**3 PM Centenary Fund-Pastor Viv
7 PM Advanced Lay Speaker Class-Pastor Viv**

Sunday, February 27

**10 AM Zoom and In Person Worship
"Dedication of Commitment Cards"**

Wednesday, March 2

**ASH WEDNESDAY- LENT BEGINS
7 PM Zoom and In Person Worship**

