

Sunday Service: May 10, 2020

“Do the Healthy Need a Doctor?”



Even though the current pandemic was caused by a "novel" virus, its most devastating results are sadly, all too familiar.

The healthcare system in our country was broken long before COVID-19 ever showed up.

There are still a great number of things we do not know about COVID-19, but one fact is undeniable: the number of infections and deaths have a direct correlation to one's zip code. The poor, the elderly, and those who have brown skin are grossly over-represented among the sick and the dying.

These folks are similarly under-represented among those who have access to testing and even basic levels of health care. And wouldn't you know it, Jesus actually had something to say about that!

“America's health care system is in crisis precisely because we systematically neglect wellness and prevention.” — Tom Harkin

Link to YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TE8Yqi7KPd0>

1. GATHERING



- **Prelude:** “What’s Going On” by Marvin Gaye (performed by Playing for Change)

- **Call to Worship:** Based Psalms 118 (**L:** leader, **P:** people)
 - **ALL:** God is our refuge and strength, a very real help whenever we are in trouble.
 - **L:** Okay, so then you won’t be afraid even when the earth’s climate changes, or when the earthquakes and the mountains crumble, or hurricanes and tsunamis cause the seas to roar and foam and even when a viral pandemic darkens the sky.
 - **ALL:** (Selah: stop and listen)
 - **P:** We shall be still and wait until God comes to help us.
 - **L:** Like a river fed by mountain streams, God can refresh our weary souls!
 - **P:** And we shall float motionless in mid-stream!
 - **L:** And if God is in our midst nothing should be able to shake our hope and confidence.
 - **P:** God’s help is as certain as the morning’s dawn.
 - **L:** The leaders of nations may stomp up and down, lie and pout. But rulers and kingdoms always come and go!
 - **P:** We will be still, knowing that the Lord of hosts is with us forever.
 - **ALL:** (Selah: pause and take note)
 - **L:** God will bring an end to violence and wars, since the Lord can snap arrows and spears with his breath and squish aircraft carriers with his little finger.
 - **P:** We will remain still, knowing that God is love and peace!
 - **L:** The Lord of everything is with us; the God, who was faithful to our ancestors is also our refuge.
 - **ALL:** (Selah, amen... may it be so!)



“No one should ever be forced to choose between food and education, or medicine and shelter when they don't have the resources. It's very unfair.” — Rachel Brosnahan

- **Confessional Prayer:** (spoken in unison)

Lord,
 Enlighten what is dark in me,
 Strengthen what is weak in me,
 Mend what is broken in me,
 Bind what is bruised in me,
 Heal what is sick in me,
 And lastly,
 resurrect whatever peace and love has
 died in me.



— Amen

“America's health care system is neither healthy, caring, nor a system.” — Walter Cronkite

2. HEARING GOD’S WORD

- **Scripture:** Luke 5:27-33

Luke 5: 27 After these events he went out and observed a toll collector named Levi sitting at his toll booth. He said to him, "Follow me!" 28 Leaving everything behind, he immediately got up and followed Jesus.

29 And then Levi gave him a great banquet in his house and a large crowd of tax collectors and others gathered to dine with them.

30 The Pharisees and their scholars complained to his disciples: "Why do you people eat and drink with toll collectors and sinners?"

31 In response Jesus said to them: "Since when do the healthy need a doctor? It's the sick who do. 32 I have not come to enlist religious folks to change their hearts, but sinners!"

33 But they obviously didn't hear him (or didn't want to hear what he had to say) since they responded, "The disciples of John, frequently fast and pray, like the disciples of the Pharisee's do, but your disciples just eat and drink all the time."

- **Song:** "Be Not Afraid" by Bob Dufford (sung by John Michael Talbot)
- **Song:** "The Storm is Passing Over" (sung by the Detroit Mass Choir, directed by Mr. Jimmy Dowell)
- **Message:** "Do the Healthy Need a Doctor?"

“It is no measure of health to be well adjusted to a profoundly sick society.”

— Jiddu Krishnamurti



3. RESPONDING TO GOD



- **Singing:** “Higher Ground by Stevie Wonder (performed by Playing for Change)

- **Reflections d Responses**

- **Joys and Concerns**

Please pray for:

- Gloria who was in the hospital with bronchial pneumonia and blood clots.
- Our city leaders who chose to close the homeless encampment near the Atzlan Center without providing the necessary additional housing.
- What happens at our building after COVID-19. Renee provided us some powerful thoughts on what is happening now and possibilities for the next stage.
- Erin who will be graduating from CSU this spring (she’s currently in Pennsylvania with her folks, finishing her courses online.
- Maurice and Bjorn as they follow up with a contact in Sen. Gardner's office regarding the handling of Bjorn's visa.
- Cathy’s friend Heather, whose cancer is progressing quickly.
- Those in Liberia suffering from the chaos of COVID-19, and for the ELWA hospital and all the medical personnel there as they struggle with the immense problems.
- Keith’s father whose pain is under control, but who does not sleep well, and for Keith as he considers staying in Monument to avoid the possibility of spreading the virus to his parents.
- Gus who is still experiencing lots of pain in his neck, back, and knees.



“Your body hears everything your mind says.”

— Naomi Judd



- **Sending into God’s World**

- **Closing**

- **Post Service Conversation**

Now’s the time to chat with everyone via Zoom!

