

Senior Moments with Jay

About this time of the year, something begins to stir within us. Farmers and gardeners start dreaming about the new crops and flowers to plant this year. New hopes arrive after the winter, and most of us anticipate spring! It's interesting to consider how God planned our life in relation to the world around us. Life includes dark and cold times. Sorrowful disappointments make up the "winters" of our life. But always there's anticipation: "For His anger lasts only a moment...weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning" (Psalm 30:5). Anticipation puts a spring into our steps. It stirs our mind and emotions, even if the time for action is not yet.

Jesus Himself lived with anticipation. He endured the cross with all its agony in anticipation of "the joy that was set before Him" (Hebrews 12:2). The faithful saints of old lived in a similar way, such as Noah, Abraham and Sarah, and Moses. God held before them the expectancy of something better that was beyond them. This spurred them to faith and obedience.

Sometimes Christians become too gloomy in their outlook on life. We have many reasons to look about us and proclaim with the psalmist in Psalm 30:19-21. To live without anticipation is to be stuck on a low plane of living where God does not intend us to be. Let's be on the outlook for God's blessings; if not today, then surely tomorrow! For a Christian, the best is yet to come! God wants to make our feet like a deer's feet on high places (Psalm 18:33; Habakkuk 3:19) – ever climbing higher until our anticipations culminate in eternal heavenly joy when we can proclaim: "What a day that will be!"

Reminds me of the song we sing: "I'm pressing on the upward way, new heights I'm gaining every day; Still praying as I'm onward bound, 'Lord, plant my feet on higher ground.' Lord, lift me up and let me stand by faith on heaven's tableland. A higher plan than I have found, Lord, plant my feet on higher ground."

I hope that our Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday services blessed you as we proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. Here's something to help you remember those special days.

It was Palm Sunday, but because of a sore throat, 5-year-old Annie stayed home from church with her mother. When the rest of the family returned home, they were carrying palm fronds. Annie asked them what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he rode by on a colt," her father explained. "Wouldn't you know it," Annie fussed, "the one Sunday I'm sick and Jesus shows up and offers pony rides!"

Today...put away gloomy thoughts and "rejoice in the LORD always." May God richly bless you!

Blessings...Jay Fabin, Associate Minister

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Wordsearch 202

Rev.8:1-7 niv

S E S E C N E L I S T H H S E
 L A M L A E S D R I H T U R M
 A R O I S S G P R E P A R E D
 E T K E R N E V E S H U L Y N
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 E O G S O U N D R N E V I G D
 R E F F O G R A S S D R U O H

ALTAR BURNED
 ANGELS CENSER
 BLOOD GOLDEN
 EARTH FLASHES
 FILLED HEAVEN
 FIRE HURLED
 FIRST INCENSE
 GIVEN OPENED
 GRASS PRAYERS
 GREEN PREPARED
 HOUR SAINTS
 MIXED SILENCE
 OFFER SMOKE
 PEALS SOUND
 SEAL THRONE
 SEVEN THUNDER
 STAND TREES
 THIRD TRUMPET

TOGETHER
 RUMBLINGS
 LIGHTNING

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 P H E A V E N F S N M T E A A
 Y R L L A C H T L B O O D R T
 T N I T O N N T L A P R T P S
 N E G A E I G I E E S E H B G
 O E H R A T N E N G P H U T D
 C R T S S G H E L M O R E O M
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Hebrews 4: 13-14 (NIV)

¹³ Nothing in all creation is _____ from God's sight. Everything is _____ and laid bare before the eyes of him to whom we must give _____. ¹⁴ Therefore, since we have a _____ high priest who has ascended into _____, Jesus the Son of _____, let us hold firmly to the faith we profess.

Bible Scramble:

Unscramble the letters in each word to discover the passage. Revelations 22: 5

Teher lwil eb no ermor ngiht.

Tyhe wlli tno eedn teh lgith fo a amlp or eht ilght of het usn, orf the Lrod God lwil give ethm ighlt. And htey lwil rieng fro veer and evre.

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