



# Mariner's **DISCOVERY Church**

*OurMDC.org*  
(925) 354-1096  
1641 Bixler Road,  
Discovery Bay  
California 94505

## *Program for Sunday, December 17, 2023*

*Please welcome Jana as our worship music leader this morning!*

**Call to Worship:** *Holy is the Lord*

*O Come O Come Emmanuel*

*Mary Did You Know*

*In the Silence*

**Welcome, announcements, and prayer:**

- **Welcome and Thanks for joining us today!!!!**
- **The Weekly Bible Study has been postponed until the beginning of next year.**
- **The MDC Building Construction has resumed. Praise God!** Please pick up the latest update information on the back table. Trenches are being dug. Pipes are being put in the ground.
- **We have a fundraiser.** We are collecting sneakers in any (yes, any!) condition. There is a garbage can lined with a black bag in the carport of the green house on the property. Please put your sneakers in there.
- **We are continuing to collect recyclable plastic, glass, and aluminum cans and bottles** as a fund raiser for Children's ministry. These can also be dropped off in the carport of the residential house at the church property.
- **The "GoFundMe" fundraiser website for MDC has been updated** for the Property Building Project. It is going well. If you're interested in donating please go to our website: [www.OurMDC.org](http://www.OurMDC.org) and click on the link. **You can also pick up a few business cards at the back table with the QR code to share with family & friends.**
- **Please pick up Connect Cards/Envelopes** in the back for offerings, prayer requests and place it in one of the offering boxes. **Please note**, for pledge card donations, please mark your gift "BF" or "Building Fund."
- **Thank you for your continued financial support of MDC.**
  - Tithes & Offerings Budget (need): \$115,138
  - Actual Tithes and Offerings received: \$ 88,914
  - Net Shortfall: \$ -26,224**
- **Please contact us** for any needs, suggestions, or prayer requests:
  - Pastor Larry Quinnell - [PastorLarry@OurMDC.org](mailto:PastorLarry@OurMDC.org)
  - General Info. - [Info@OurMDC.org](mailto:Info@OurMDC.org)
  - Prayer requests - [PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org](mailto:PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org)

**Message:** *The New King demonstrates His love by laying down His life.*

**Response/Affirmation:** *El Shaddai*

**Close of Service**

## Message Notes:

**Friday Devotional: The Word became flesh** John 1:14

### Who was Pontius Pilate?

- General of the Roman army in Judea.
- Likely had an alliance marriage.
- Was educated, had some wealth, was politically connected.
- Appointed as governor by “stand-in” for Emperor Tiberius.
- Stayed in Caesarea, came to Jerusalem for the festivals.
- Chief Administrator of the Roman tax system.
- Supreme judge on cases that affected Rome.
- Ruled between 26-36 AD.
- Recalled to Rome, gave his report, then retired. Suicidal?

### Pontius Pilate: Governor of Judea

- Political maneuvering? “Caesar is God.”
- Flag banners with image of Caesar moved to Jerusalem.
  - Jews protested (in Caesarea) and would rather die. Pilate relents.
- Golden shields into Herod’s palace.
  - Jews petitioned Emperor Tiberius. Pilate reprimanded. Shields removed.
- Takes Temple treasury to pay for new aqueduct (conspiracy).
- Kills some Galileans (Luke).

### The Politician communicates:

Personally, “The man is innocent.”

Politically, “Execute the man.”

Personally, I am “Pro-Life.”

Politically, I am “Pro-Choice.”

### Pontius Pilate: Personal issues

- Ineffective political decisions create opportunities for political extortion.
- Pilate was trying to please people he did not respect, so as to not get in trouble with those in authority.
- Pilate: “Don’t you know who I am? Don’t you know my authority?”
- Pilate found Jesus innocent, and declared it to others!
- Pilate had Jesus scourged. Pilate had Jesus crucified.
- Pilate publicly washed his hands (though history finds him guilty).
- Pilate: Shrewd, Cruel, Man-Pleaser, Superstitious.

### Pontius Pilate: Lessons learned

- Bible is historical and factual.
- Truth is not relative, but in a person: Jesus Christ.
  - Inaccurate perception leads to destructive decisions.
- In the face of error and manipulation, I need to speak the truth in love.

- I cannot abandon a commitment to the truth for the sake of peace.
- God is sovereign.
- I am responsible for my thoughts, decisions, words, and actions.
- One cannot remain neutral with regards to Jesus Christ.
  - As you judge Jesus now, Jesus will judge you later.

**Mark 15:16** The soldiers took Him away into the palace (that is, the Praetorium), and they called together the whole Roman cohort. 17 They dressed Him up in purple, and after twisting a crown of thorns, they put it on Him; 18 and they began to acclaim Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" 19 They kept beating His head with a reed, and spitting on Him, and kneeling and bowing before Him. 20 After they had mocked Him, they took the purple robe off Him and put His own garments on Him. And they led Him out to crucify Him.

15:21 They pressed into service a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to bear His cross.

15:22 Then they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull. 23 They tried to give Him wine mixed with myrrh; but He did not take it. 24 And they crucified Him, and divided up His garments among themselves, casting lots for them to decide what each man should take. 25 It was the third hour when they crucified Him. 26 The inscription of the charge against Him read, "THE KING OF THE JEWS."

15:27 They crucified two robbers with Him, one on His right and one on His left. 28 [And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with transgressors."] 29 Those passing by were hurling abuse at Him, wagging their heads, and saying, "Ha! You who are going to destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, 30 save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" 31 In the same way the chief priests also, along with the scribes, were mocking Him among themselves and saying, "He saved others; He cannot save Himself. 32 "Let this Christ, the King of Israel, now come down from the cross, so that we may see and believe!" Those who were crucified with Him were also insulting Him.

15:33 When the sixth hour came, darkness fell over the whole land until the ninth hour. 34 At the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, "ELOI, ELOI, LAMA SABACHTHANI?" which is translated, "MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY HAVE YOU FORSAKEN ME?" 35 When some of the bystanders heard it, they began saying, "Behold, He is calling for Elijah." 36 Someone ran and filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a reed, and gave Him a drink, saying, "Let us see whether Elijah will come to take Him down." 37 And Jesus uttered a loud cry, and breathed His last. 38 And the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. 39 When the centurion, who was standing right in front of Him,

saw the way He breathed His last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"

**John 11:40** Jesus said to her, "Did I not say to you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?"

**Takeaways:**

- The cross is the expression of God's love for us.
- Conviction of Sin: Not just to me; Not just to you; What it did to Jesus Christ.
- Sin is horrendous, and it took the death of the Son of God to fix it.
- God wrecked His temple.
- God chastised His own Son.
- God opened a doorway for a personal relationship.
- We can have confidence to enter the Holy Place, by the blood of Jesus.
- Religion says: Go do that you might be accepted.
- In Jesus, You are accepted. Now go do.
  - Draw near. Hold Fast. Stimulate others. Assemble. Encourage.
- John Newton said, "I am a great sinner. Christ is a great Savior."
- If you have never trusted in Jesus, today is a good day!

**You are not alone. God is with you! MDC wants to help. We are here for you.**

Prayer Request: [PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org](mailto:PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org)

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