

## Upcoming Events/Announcements

*If you know of someone who has become homebound, moved to a care center, or would love more connection with the congregation, please let us know so that we may include them in our caring ministries. We love our whole church family and want to ensure that everyone is included, remembered, and loved.*

### Lent Information-

**Bible Studies** on *Luke: Jesus and the Outsiders, Outcasts and Outlaws* offered Sunday during the education hour, Tuesday at Noon on Zoom (Sign up in Lobby), Wednesday evenings at 7, and Thursdays at 1 PM beginning Sunday February 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Maundy Thursday Prayer Vigil** April 6<sup>th</sup> 7:30 AM-5 PM

**Maundy Thursday Service** April 6<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM

**Good Friday Service** April 7<sup>th</sup> 6:30 PM

**Easter Services** April 9<sup>th</sup>: Sunrise 6:30 AM, Traditional 8 AM, Traditional w/Choir 9:30 AM, Contemporary 11 AM

**LGBTQIA2S+ & Allies Potluck-** Wednesday, March 15 at 5:30 pm in the Coffee Room of the church (just to the left of the main entrance). Lemonade, water & coffee are provided. LGBTQIA2S+ singles, couples, families, kids & Allies welcome! The table will be set – bring your social, networking self. This is a time to get acquainted and form deeper friendships.



**For the week of  
March 12, 2023**

**Canyon Lake  
United Methodist Church  
In Rapid City, SD**

### “Luke: Parables from the Underside”

Emily Dickinson once wrote, “Tell all the Truth but tell it slant.” Sometimes the most powerful way for people to understand deep truth is to tell it to them in ways that it takes time to soak in. That is exactly what Jesus did with parables. “Whoever has ears, let them hear,” he said as he finished his stories. Deep truth told in ways that take time to be understood. This, along with additions what we explore together this week.

**Prayer: By your grace and power, Lord Jesus, may the stories of our lives conform always more closely to the story of your life, death, and resurrection. Make us living parables, that others may experience your love through us. Amen.**

**This week in Adam Hamilton’s “Luke”, read Chapter 3 “Parables from the Underside”.**

**Monday 3.13 “Love your Neighbor. Pray.” Luke 10:25 – 11:13**  
Two parables are used in the reading today, the parables of the Good Samaritan and the Bad Neighbor. The parables were used to challenge and to teach. It is important to remember that these are not stories of real events. They were fiction that were used to make a point and make people think outside the box. They almost always carry some kind of twist or punchline. How would you yourself describe the role of parables Jesus’ teaching and ministry?

**Tuesday 3.14 “Hard Sayings” Luke 11:14-54**  
Stop and think about this: If you were entering into some kind of ministry today, what could you do that would so offend both the government and religious leaders so deeply that you would be

assassinated within three years? That is precisely what Jesus did. The reading today is part of the collection of verses known as Jesus' "hard sayings". Sometimes Jesus spoke in parables that took time to understand, but here he spoke point-blank with the leaders of his day. What do you think Jesus was really angry about? How do you think the various leaders heard and received these statements?

**Wednesday 3.15      "Warnings"      Luke 12:1-34**

"STOP!" Jesus said, "Stop! Watch out! Guard yourself!" He then spoke about the issues that he saw as corrupting and bending people away from the faith that God truly intended. Although he spoke these words 2000 years ago, they are powerfully relevant still today. How do you see these warnings applying to us (to YOU) now?

**Thursday 3.16      "Conflicts and Using Judgment"      Luke 12:35-59**

Parables are sprinkled throughout the readings this week. They helped Jesus tell the truths "on the slant" as Emily Dickinson said. People would hear the stories, try to understand them, and eventually ask, "Wait, do you mean me?" We do the same thing. We listen. We seek to understand. And we ask, "Do you mean me?" The disciples were the exact same way. In verse 41 Peter literally asks, "Lord, are you telling this parable for us or for everyone?" It was truth on the slant so people could absorb it. That was the power of Jesus' teaching and his parables. What is it in today's passage that jumps out and makes you pay attention?

**Friday 3.17      "It's about God's Kingdom"      Luke 13:1-35**

What is the Kingdom of God? The Kingdom the state of our lives when our beliefs and actions are in balance with God. In this chapter, Jesus is teaching about the Kingdom. This concept was brand new for many who were listening (both then and now). How do you think God's Kingdom grows? What is Jesus saying about people being saved?

**Saturday 3.18      "Don't Follow the Rules"      Luke 14:1-35**

Jesus and every other faithful Jew in Israel were bound by a strict collection of rules, 613 of them to be precise. These rules, known as the Law, guided Jewish people of every age. The rules were a gift from God that enabled people to live healthy, whole lives in balance

with God. But there was a problem: the rules became more important than the people. The Pharisees and others were following the letter of the Law but had forgotten the spirit of the Law. God's love and compassion, God's tenderness and forgiveness, had in many cases been pushed out and left by the side of the road. Jesus in many ways came saying, "Don't follow the rules. Instead follow God." How would we do this today?



## Sermon Notes

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