



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

Program for Sunday, January 4, 2026

Please welcome the worship music team this week!

Call to Worship: Friend of God

The Blessing

Welcome, announcements, and prayer:

Announcements

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Mariner's Discovery Church
P.O. Box 1667
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or **CALL THE OFFICE - (925) 354-1096**

Adoration: 10,000 Reasons

Selected Scripture reading: Ephesians 4:17-24

Message: *From Futility to Fullness, A New Walk*

Affirmation: *Child of Love*

Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues

Selected Scriptures:

Ephesians 4:17-24 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Friday Devotional: Luke 10:41, 42, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

- Where in your life are you quietly asking, "Lord, do You not care?"
- Can you recall a time when Jesus gently exposed what was beneath your complaint? What did you learn?
- What are the "many things" that most commonly distract you from focused time with Jesus?
- How can you discern when a good responsibility has become a spiritual distraction?
- What is one concrete step you can take this week to reduce a distraction and protect time at Jesus' feet?

Thank God that I can place all of my resolutions and goals for 2026 on the altar asking God to work in them and through them to transform me to be more like Jesus!

Sowing and Reaping themes in the Bible:

Category	Key Verses
Core sowing/reaping	Galatians 6:7–9; 2 Corinthians 9:6
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What is sowing and reaping? Galatians 6:7-10

- Giving forms a character of generosity.
- Being a faithful steward, understanding that we are managing God's resources.
- Giving with love and a cheerful heart, not giving to get.
- There are more rewards and blessings in this life than material gain. We need to act like it, and this world is not our home.
- Sowing is sometimes diligent work in the morning and evening.
- Sowing is working towards a spiritual harvest (human souls).
- God is not a vending machine. That view treats God as an idol.
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From Futility to Fullness: A New Walk.

- **The Old Walk: Futility of mind** (verses 17-19) So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.
- ***The gospel calls us out of a futile, darkened way of life into a renewed mind and a new self in Christ.***
- Futility of their thinking. Darkened in understanding.
- Normal pattern of life apart from God. Separated from His presence, His fellowship, His power.
- Culpable ignorance.
- Callous and given over. Result: Greediness for sin.
- Takeaways; See this everywhere:
 - What world says is freedom is emptiness and bondage.
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- Put off the old self. Who you were in Adam; identity apart from Christ.
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- Be renewed in the spirit of your mind(verse 23) = passive; God renews your inner orientation.
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Selected Scripture reading: Ephesians 4:17-24

Message: *From Futility to Fullness, A New Walk*

Affirmation: *Child of Love*

Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues

Selected Scriptures:

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Welcome, announcements, and prayer:

Announcements

Thanks for joining our Worship Service today....

- **Bible Studies are temporarily postponed.** We will resume after the holidays. Please let Pastor Larry know if you have a preference on a day of the week you would like to meet.
- **If you have any prayer requests,** please fill out a Connect Envelope and place it in the wooden offering box in the back. Also, during the week you can email requests at: PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org

Thank You for your Offerings!!

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Adoration: 10,000 Reasons

Selected Scripture reading: Ephesians 4:17-24

Message: *From Futility to Fullness, A New Walk*

Affirmation: *Child of Love*

Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues

Selected Scriptures:

Ephesians 4:17-24 So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness. But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Friday Devotional: Luke 10:41, 42, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and bothered about so many things; but only one thing is necessary, for Mary has chosen the good part, which shall not be taken away from her."

- Where in your life are you quietly asking, "Lord, do You not care?"
- Can you recall a time when Jesus gently exposed what was beneath your complaint? What did you learn?
- What are the "many things" that most commonly distract you from focused time with Jesus?
- How can you discern when a good responsibility has become a spiritual distraction?
- What is one concrete step you can take this week to reduce a distraction and protect time at Jesus' feet?

Thank God that I can place all of my resolutions and goals for 2026 on the altar asking God to work in them and through them to transform me to be more like Jesus!

Sowing and Reaping themes in the Bible:

Category	Key Verses
Core sowing/reaping	Galatians 6:7–9; 2 Corinthians 9:6
Financial sowing	Luke 6:38; Proverbs 3:9–10; 2 Corinthians 9:10–11
OT sowing/reaping	Hosea 10:12; Proverbs 11:18; Psalm 126:5–6
Jesus' sowing imagery	Matthew 13; Mark 4; John 4:35–38
Spiritual sowing	James 3:18; Romans 6:22
Perseverance	Ecclesiastes 11; James 5:7

What is sowing and reaping? Galatians 6:7-10

- Giving forms a character of generosity.
- Being a faithful steward, understanding that we are managing God's resources.
- Giving with love and a cheerful heart, not giving to get.
- There are more rewards and blessings in this life than material gain. We need to act like it, and this world is not our home.
- Sowing is sometimes diligent work in the morning and evening.
- Sowing is working towards a spiritual harvest (human souls).
- God is not a vending machine. That view treats God as an idol.
 - God hates idols.
 - God strikes down idols.

From Futility to Fullness: A New Walk.

- **The Old Walk: Futility of mind** (verses 17-19) So this I say, and affirm together with the Lord, that you walk no longer just as the Gentiles also walk, in the futility of their mind, being darkened in their understanding, excluded from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the hardness of their heart; and they, having become callous, have given themselves over to sensuality for the practice of every kind of impurity with greediness.
- ***The gospel calls us out of a futile, darkened way of life into a renewed mind and a new self in Christ.***
- Futility of their thinking. Darkened in understanding.
- Normal pattern of life apart from God. Separated from His presence, His fellowship, His power.
- Culpable ignorance.
- Callous and given over. Result: Greediness for sin.
- Takeaways; See this everywhere:
 - What world says is freedom is emptiness and bondage.
 - Consumerism: Retail therapy, buy more; scroll more, -> never satisfied.
 - Self centered success: climbing a ladder that does not reach eternal things.
 - Moral confusion: follow own heart, but hearts are darkened and hardened.

The turning point: you did not learn Christ this way (verses 20-21) But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus,

- You learned Christ. Christ is the lesson, and the Teacher.
- You heard Him; through preaching of the gospel.
- You were taught in Him; union with Him, all of your life is a classroom where Jesus is forming you.
- Truth is in Jesus, Truth is located in a person.
- That relationship shapes daily decisions/ walk. It is apprenticeship to the living Christ.
- Takeaways:
 - Are you content to know facts about Jesus, or are you actively doing the apprenticeship work (learning Him)?
 - Does truth for you start with Christ or do you decide what's true and see whether He fits?

The new wardrobe: put off, be renewed, (verses 22-23) that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind,

- Put off the old self. Who you were in Adam; identity apart from Christ.
 - It is being corrupted.
 - Sinful desires are deceitful. They promise freedom and satisfaction, but deliver slavery and decay.
 - Renounce that old identity and its patterns.
- Be renewed in the spirit of your mind(verse 23) = passive; God renews your inner orientation.
 - God is changing how you see Him, yourself, others, the world, your past, your present, your future.
 - This happens through His Word, His Spirit, His people, our practices that shape our hearts and minds.

The new wardrobe: put on (verses 24) and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

- Put on the new self (Verse 24) = to live out who you are now in Christ.
 - The new self has been created: is already a work of God.
 - In the likeness of God (image of God = is an echo of Genesis 1)
 - Righteousness and holiness of the truth = right living and set apart for God rooted in the truth of God.
- Takeaways:
 - This not behavior modification to earn the favor of God. It is living in alignment with what God has already done.
 - Am I walking like my old self (futility, darkness, impurity)?
 - Is there an old garment that God is asking me to lay aside?
 - Is there a new garment that God is calling me to put on this week?
- Our response: If we do not believe in Jesus:
 - Recognize the treadmill life: busy, but empty.
 - Numb conscience.
 - Feel far from God.
 - Jesus' invitation is not try harder, it is to learn from Jim. Come to Him. He will give rest. He will give new life.
 - Turn from the futile walk. Entrust yourself to Jesus: His death for your wrongdoing. Let Jesus begin this renewal in you.
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 - In what area are you still wearing the old clothes
 - Speech? Media habits? Attitude? Selfishness?
 - What is one step for putting on the new self this week?
 - Confession?
 - Habit to remove?
 - Habit to add?

1 Corinthians 11:23-24 For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus in the night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke it and said, "This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me."

1 Corinthians 11:25-26 In the same way He took the cup also after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

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Prayer Request: PrayerRequest@OurMDC.org

Pastor Larry: PastorLarry@OurMDC.org

Information: Info@OurMDC.org

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Mailing: PO Box 1667,

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Church phone: (925) 354-1096



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Program for Sunday, January 4, 2026

Please welcome the worship music team this week!

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