



Mariner's **DISCOVERY Church**

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

Program for Sunday, March 8, 2026

Please welcome the worship music team this week!

Call to Worship: *Confidence*

Glorious Day

Welcome, announcements, and prayer:

Thanks for joining our Worship Service today....

- **Bible Studies are on temporary Hiatus until further notice.**
- **Last Sunday we had the annual Church Business Meeting.** If you weren't able to attend and would like to know what was discussed, you can go to our website to watch the video. Also, there are information packets at the information table.
- **We have signed a contract for the construction of the Patio Cover Addition.** Work should begin between now and March 24th, depending on County permitting and receipt of materials. Thank you for your continued support.
- **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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Mariner's Discovery Church

P.O. Box 1667

Discovery Bay, CA. 94505

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Adoration: *Chosen*

Selected Scripture readings.

Message: *Renewed Daily*

Affirmation: *Thrive*

Close of Worship Service, Fellowship continues

Selected Scriptures:

Lamentations 3:21-25

This I recall to my mind,

Therefore I have hope.

The Lord's lovingkindnesses indeed never cease,

For His compassions never fail.

They are new every morning;

Great is Your faithfulness.

"The Lord is my portion," says my soul,

"Therefore I have hope in Him."

The Lord is good to those who wait for Him,

To the person who seeks Him.

2 Corinthians 4:16 Therefore we do not lose heart, but though our outer man is decaying, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Ephesians 4:22-24 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.

Galatians 5:16-25 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh. For the flesh sets its desire against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in opposition to one another, so that you may not do the things that you please. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the Law. Now the deeds of the flesh are evident, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.

If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Colossians 3:1-4 Therefore if you have been raised up with Christ, keep seeking the things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth. For you have died and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is our life, is revealed, then you also will be revealed with Him in glory.

Philippians 4:6-7 Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

Ephesians 6:10-18 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places. Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, HAVING GIRDED YOUR LOINS WITH TRUTH, and HAVING PUT ON THE BREASTPLATE OF and having shod YOUR FEET WITH THE PREPARATION OF THE GOSPEL OF PEACE; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take THE HELMET OF SALVATION, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints,

Friday Devotional Jeremiah 31:3 "The Lord appeared to him from afar, saying,

"I have loved you with an everlasting love;

Therefore I have drawn you with lovingkindness."

The Transformed Will

The Transformed Will: God initiates

Every genuine movement toward God began with God moving toward us.

God is the first actor in every spiritual transformation.

The Transformed Will: God Reshapes

God does not merely command obedience—He creates the kind of heart that can obey.

Transformation is internal before it is external.

The Transformed Will: We respond

God's grace empowers choice, but it does not eliminate responsibility.

Grace does not cancel choice—it empowers it.

The Transformed Will: Conflicting Desires

Big Idea The presence of struggle is not proof of failure—it is proof of life.

Believers experience tension because the Spirit is active.

The Transformed Will: Integrated Center

God works in you — initiation. God works to will — reshaping desire. God works to act — empowering obedience. We “work out” what God works in — response.

This is the engine of sanctification.

My transformed will?

This is the engine of sanctification.

- God initiates. God reshapes. We respond. Conflict persists.
- And God continues His work until the day of Christ Jesus.
- The question for me: **Where is God inviting me to cooperate with His transforming work today?**

Renewed Daily: God promises

Lamentations 3:21-25

- Verse 21 is a hinge
- Our daily renewal is not powered by our discipline but by God's daily mercy.
- Our renewal is based on the faithfulness of God towards us.
- God's compassion is not a one-time event but a daily, renewing reality. Each day in exile is also a day of fresh mercy.
- God's reliability—His steadfastness to His promises—is the ground of hope, not circumstances.
- Goodness is experienced in the posture of waiting and seeking, not in instant resolution.
- Hope is anchored in God's character, not in circumstances.
- God's covenant love persists through judgment.
- Mercy is both continuous and renewed.
- God Himself is the believer's ultimate portion.
- Waiting and seeking are covenant responses.

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Lamentations 3:21-25

- **In seasons of loss:** When careers, relationships, health, or dreams collapse, this passage invites us to *call to mind* God's character.
- **For daily living:** “New every morning” pushes us to a daily rhythm of receiving mercy—confession, dependence, and fresh trust.
- **For identity:** “The LORD is my portion” confronts our tendency to define ourselves by success, possessions, or ministry. Our true wealth is God Himself.

- **For endurance:** “The LORD is good to those who wait for Him” shapes a long-view spirituality—faith that stays when answers don’t come quickly.
- Where do you feel you’ve “used up” God’s patience? How does “never cease” confront that belief?
- How might a daily rhythm (Scripture, prayer, reflection) help you notice new mercies?

Renewed Daily: God renews

2 Corinthians 4:16

- Verse 16 is a summary and turning point.
- Therefore ties courage directly to the hope of resurrection and eternal glory.
- Outer man (physical, mortal existence) is subject to weakness, aging, persecution, and death.
- Inner man (inner self, regenerate self in relationship with God) renewal is continuous and is the work of the Holy Spirit through the gospel.
- Contrast: Visible outer decay with invisible inner renewal.
- Body’s decay and suffering is real and normal.
- Renewal is present tense and continuous. The Holy Spirit is actively strengthening and transforming believers.
- There is tension between already and not yet. We await a bodily resurrection. The inner person belongs to the new creation.
- Suffering is not the contradiction but the context of renewal.
- Our hope is rooted in the unseen.

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2 Corinthians 4:16

- As we age and deal with weakness, this verse reframes our experience: physical decline does not mean spiritual decline. We can be “getting older” and “being renewed at the same time.
- When we experience discouragement at a lack of measurable spiritual progress, this text anchors perseverance in the inner work that God is doing.
- For those of us suffering with chronic pain, this verse offers a paradoxical hope. God is doing, deep, unseen work, even as the outer life feels diminished.
- The “Day by Day “ invites a rhythm of daily renewal and dependence, through the word of God, prayer, and fellowship, rather than relying on spiritual highs.
- In what ways has suffering or aging actually deepened your dependence on God?
- What practices could help you attend more to your inner life than your outer appearance?
- What small, realistic daily habit could you adopt to open yourself to God’s renewing work?

Renewed Daily: Put on the new self

Ephesians 4:24

- Lay aside the old self (v. 22)
- Be renewed in the spirit of your mind (v. 23)
- Put on the new self (v. 24)
- In the likeness of God – The new self is restored God’s image-bearing humanity.
- Has been created is a completed act with ongoing results. God has already created in this new self in Christ.
- Live out what God has already done in you—step into the new humanity that reflects God’s character in real, ethical, holy living.

- New creation is God’s work, not self improvement.
- Salvation includes moral transformation.
- The “truth” in Jesus (Ephesians 4:21) produces a life marked by righteousness and holiness, in contrast to the deceitful desires of the old self.
- There is tension between “already and not yet.” Identity is given; practice must align with it.

Ephesians 4:24

- **Identity before behavior** – You don’t “earn” the new self; you live from it. Christian ethics flow from a new identity, not from moral striving alone.
- **Intentional “putting on”** – Daily choices (speech, time, actions, money, relationships) are opportunities to “wear” the new self or revert to the old.
- **Counter-cultural holiness** – In a culture of self-definition, this verse insists that our true self is defined “according to God,” not according to our impulses.
- **Mind renewal and habit formation** – The new self is expressed as the mind is renewed (v. 23) and habits are reshaped around truth.
- Where does your daily behavior most obviously “mismatch” your identity in Christ?
- What “old clothes” (habits, attitudes, speech) do you keep putting back on?
- What would it look like today to “dress” like who you already are in Christ?
- How might you remind yourself each morning: “I am putting on the new self”?

Renewed Daily: Walk by the Spirit

Galatians 5:16–25

- How does a believer actually live a holy life? Not by the Law, and not by indulging the flesh, but by walking by the Spirit.
- Verse 16: a command and a promise: “Walk by the Spirit” and “you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.” Not fight the flesh first, but walk by the Spirit first.
- Verse 17: There is a conflict between the flesh and the Spirit. Flesh is the fallen, selfish human nature opposed to God. The Spirit are in active opposition.
- Verse 18: The Spirit, not the Mosaic Law, is the governing principle of the believer’s life.
- Verse 19-21: The deeds of the flesh (not an exhaustive list) are sexual sin, religious sin, and sins of excess. Those who have a habitual, unrepentant lifestyle) “will not inherit the kingdom of God.”
- Verse 22-23: Fruit of the Spirit (singular) fulfills the Law’s intent.
- Verse 24: Crucifixion of the flesh points to a decisive break with the flesh at conversion, rooted in union with the cross of Christ.
- Verse 25: since our life originates from the Spirit, our conduct should align with that reality.

Galatians 5:16–25

- Sanctification is Spirit-empowered, not Law-driven. Holiness (separated for use by God) is produced by internal transformation through the Spirit.
- The Christian life is a battleground, not a neutral zone. The presence of struggle is not proof of spiritual failure but evidence of spiritual life.
- True conversion includes a decisive break with the flesh, and involves a fundamental reorientation of desires, even though the flesh still resists.
- Character, not mere activity, is the mark of the work of the Spirit. The work of the Holy Spirit in us is primarily about who we are becoming.
- Inheritance of the kingdom is incompatible with a life ruled by the flesh.

Galatians 5:16–25

- Our freedom comes with boundaries. True freedom is being led by the Spirit.
- We need to be honest about inner conflict. There is tension between our old desires and the new life. Our call by the Holy Spirit is to walk in that tension.
- Our deeds and character are mirrors: Deeds of the flesh versus fruit of the Spirit; what is more evident in my life?
- “Walk,” “led,” “live,” by the Spirit point to a moment-by-moment reliance, not a one-time experience.
- Both the deeds of the flesh and the fruit of the Spirit are relational. What is showing up in your life?
- When you face temptation, do you focus more on the sin or on the Spirit?
- What does “walking by the Spirit” practically look like for you in a typical day?

- How might you shift from a “don’t do that” mindset to a “walk with Him” mindset?

Renewed Daily: Seek the things above

Colossians 3:1-4

- Verse 1: If = Since. This assumes the reality of spiritual resurrection with Christ.
- Keep seeking the things above: Present imperative = continual pursuit. Realm is where Christ is seated at the right hand of God, place of authority, victory, and intercession.
- Set your mind on things above, not things on earth means not just behavior, but mindset, orientation, affection. Earth is values opposed to God.
- “For you have died” is a decisive past event; died to the old realm of sin, law, and self-rule.
- Verse 3: hidden mean secure, concealed, and not yet full revealed. Our lives are bound up with Christ in God.
- Verse 4: Christ is more than just the giver of life, Jesus IS our life. When He appears, believers will be revealed with Him in glory.

Colossians 3:1-4

- Our union with Christ is the core of our Christian identity. Our identity is not in our moral performance, religious ritual, or mystical experience, but in being “with Christ in God.”
- There is a tension between “already” and “not yet.”
 - Already: Died, Raised, Hidden life
 - Not yet: will be revealed with Him in glory.
- Jesus Christ is not an add-on to life. Jesus is the source, center, and definition of life itself.
- Our heavenly orientation shapes our earthly conduct. Heavenly focus is not escapism, but produces earthly holiness.
- Our life is secure “with Christ in God.” This is absolute safety and belonging, even when our outward circumstances or appearances suggest otherwise.

Colossians 3:1-4

- Our identity is anchored in a fixed reality: “you have died..., your life is hidden with Christ in God.”
- “Set your mind” speaks directly into distraction, anxiety, and fixation on earthly metrics (success, image, comfort). This calls for a deliberate re-orientation of thought and desire.
- When life feels disappointing, “hidden with Christ” reframes it. Our truest life is not fully visible yet, but it is real and secure.
- The call for holiness flows from this identity. We put sin to death not to gain life, but because we already have life in Christ.
- We have a hope for the future. This is concrete and personal. Our story ends in shared glory with Christ, not in decay or insignificance.
- Where are you still trying to “earn” what Christ has already secured?
- What would it look like today to act as someone who is already spiritually raised, not spiritually dead?

Renewed Daily: Let the peace of God guard your mind

Philippians 4:6-7

- “Be anxious for nothing” is not a denial that concerns exist, but a prohibition against being dominated by worry. This is about ongoing, consuming anxiety, not a momentary concern.
- Prayer is general word for worshipful communion with God.
- Supplication is specific request, earnest asking.
- Thanksgiving; gratitude is not an add-on, it shapes the posture of the heart even before the answer comes.
- God already knows, but He invites relational disclosure. This is an act of trust.
- Peace comes from God, and reflects the sovereign, settled calm of God. More than the absence of trouble, but wholeness and inner rest in Him.
- This transcends human reasoning and circumstances.
- Guard is a military term; garrison, to stand guard. Our affections and thoughts are protected in Christ Jesus. Union with the Christ is the sphere of this guarding.

Philippians 4:6-7

- God invites honest, specific dependence. Our prayers expresses faith that God is personal, attentive, and willing to hear. Anxiety is not solved by denial but by redirection toward a relational God.

- Thanksgiving is integral to faith. Being grateful in the midst of need expresses trust in the character of God. Our prayers should be anchored in Who God is, not in what we want.
- Peace is a gift of God that flows from His sovereignty and goodness and is not self-manufactured calm.
- Our inner life as a battlefield that God actively guards. Our hearts and minds are vulnerable. God is deeply pastoral. We are not left alone.
- Christ is the sphere of both prayer and peace.

Philippians 4:6-7

- In our culture of chronic stress, information overload, and uncertainty, we have a pattern: turn every anxiety into prayerful, thankful, specific requests.
- Prayer is our first resort, not a last resort.
- We can express our gratitude to God when we feel like we are in the dark. Expressing thanksgiving before things are resolved trains our heart to trust the character of God when outcomes are unclear.
- What is your most persistent anxiety right now?
- Do you tend to ignore, numb, or obsess over your worries instead of praying them?
- How could you turn that specific anxiety into a concrete prayer and supplication today?
- What might change if your first reflex in worry became, “Let me tell God about this”?

Renewed Daily: Our new creation identity

2 Corinthians 5:17

- “Anyone” is radically inclusive.
- “In Christ,” means more than believing in Christ but being joined by faith and the Holy Spirit.
- We are new creations, not just a cleaned-up version of the old self. This anticipates the eventual new creation that is to come.
- Old things are associated with our old identity, old life, old values, old relationship to God, and the old verdict (condemnation).
- Behold is “attention!”
- New things have come: tense means they have some and their effects continue.
- We have a new heart, a new direction, a new community, and a new destiny.

2 Corinthians 5:17

- Our union with Christ is the basis of our new identity. Everything that follows: new creation, old passing, new coming, is a result of the union with Christ.
- Our salvation is with us as a new creation, not moral improvement. God makes us a new person. Regeneration is about who we are, not just about what we do.
- We are already participating in that new creation that was promised from the prophets and we are “firstfruits” of that new world.
- Our old status in Adam, under condemnation and alienation is no longer our defining reality. We may still struggle with sin, but the old regime has been dethroned.
- Our new life is bound up with the life, death, and resurrection of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17

- Being in Christ is the center of our identity, not in our fluid culture of self-definition and reinvention.
- We can have hope for deep change because God’s recreating power is at work in us.
- We are not trapped by our past: shame, guilt, and failures. These are no longer the truest thing about you. A label cannot stick if heaven disagrees.
- We can align ourselves with our new identity and our ethical choices and actions will flow from this new identity.
- We are ambassadors (5:18-20) with a new mission.

Renewed Daily: Armor for our mind

Ephesians 6:10–18

- Our strength is in the Lord, not in our self-discipline or personality. The same power that raised Jesus Christ from the dead and seated Him above all rule and authority is now available.
- Armor is the full complete kit of a Roman soldier. For us, it is God’s Armor. It has a purpose: that we will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil (strategic, deceptive attacks) and the evil day (times of intensified testing).

- Our struggle is not against humans, but against rulers, powers, world forces of this darkness, spiritual forces of wickedness in heavenly places.
- There is a structured, hostile spiritual realm opposing the people of God.
- We are called to stand. We are to hold the ground that Christ has already won.
- Belt of truth, Breastplate of righteousness, shoes of preparation of the gospel of peace, shield of faith, helmet of salvation, sword of the spirit=word of God.
- Prayer is the means by which the armor is used. All: Prayer, petition, times, perseverance, saints. Prayer is Holy Spirit enabled, persistent, alert, and intercessory.

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Ephesians 6:10–18

- Discern the real enemy in conflict (relationships: marriage, family, friends, work, school). People may be instruments, but the real enemy is spiritual.
- Take spiritual formation seriously. Truth, righteousness, faith, Scripture, and gospel readiness are basic survival gear.
- Normalize opposition. Difficulty, temptation, and spiritual pressure are not signs that something is wrong with your faith; they are part of the normal Christian life.
- Be on the alert (sober awareness), but not paranoid (not fear-driven obsession with the demonic).
- Make prayer a strategic habit (at all time with all perseverance). We need a lifestyle of dependence.
- Are there areas where your self reliance is actually keeping you from experiencing God’s strength?
- Who feels like “the enemy” to you right now?
- Where are you tempted to compromise or blur truth for comfort or approval?
- What specific lie do you sense the enemy using against you right now?

Renewed Daily: The week ahead

1. Believe that daily renewal is possible because of the promise.
2. Put on the new self.
3. Be renewed day by day.
4. Walk by the Holy Spirit.
5. Be strengthened in the inner person.
6. Seek the things above.
7. Let the peace of God guard your mind.
8. Live from a new creation identity.
9. Use the armor of God through prayer.

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

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