

St. Mark's Community of Faith Weekly Worship Service
August 22nd
The Parable of the Faithful Servant-Healer
Life is unbearable without truth

Welcome

Introit: Grant to Us, O God VU 949

Opening

Insight from Dorothy

Song: All who are thirsty MV 4

The Parable of the Faithful Servant-Healer- Life is unbearable without truth.

Musical Offering: I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry. Sung by Celeste Miller

The Dryden Window

Blessing

Choral Closing: Sing Amen VU 431

Next week

Postlude: March (J. Worgan)

Addendum

Parable of the Faithful Servant. Adapted from The Message-Luke 12:35-48

Keep your coats on; keep the lights on! Be like children waiting for their parents to come back home, awake and ready to open the door when they arrive and hear the key opening the lock. Lucky are the children whom the parents find on watch! They will gather and sit at the table, sharing the homecoming feast with them. It doesn't matter what time of the night they arrive; they're awake—and so blessed!

You know that if the house owner had known what night the thief was coming, they wouldn't have stayed out late and left the place unlocked. So don't sleep too long and pay attention. Just when you don't expect it the Son of Humankind will show up."

Those who know what Creating God wants and ignores it, does whatever they please will feel deep separation. But if they do not know through ignorance, they'll get a reprieve. Great gifts mean great responsibilities; greater gifts, greater responsibilities!

Life is unbearable without truth

Life is unbearable without truth.
Truth is bearable because of God.
Truth is often:
Painful.
Confusing.
Lonely.

Not because Truth is inherently problematic-it is because we have set up walls between ourselves and Truth. And tearing those down is difficult, arduous, time-consuming work. It is why most people do not do it.

Without our walls we are exposed, vulnerable, open to judgement and ridicule; alone. Yet inside the walls we are more alone and separated and hidden from all that is our wonder and authenticity. Without our walls we can feel God's touch on us.

We are accessible and closer to the whole community.
Being awake is living without walls.
Keeping your mind on God and your heart on love prepares you for the many unknowns life will throw your way.
Even in the lonely dark when you sit in the unknown and have only quiet for company, the pathway to the holy spirit waits for you.
Being awake keeps you still and ready.
The arriving mystery cannot be determined through the time and space of our corporeal reality. God-time is any time.
When we, if even for a brief moment sit in this presence-sit with the god-voice in that precious place of oneness, the long-awaited healing can begin.
And in this place of healing, we all gather.
Some awake, some asleep, some teetering in between.
All cradled, loved and being whispered to by the great parent whose story is our story is everyone's story.
Let's try harder to read this story together.