

Glade Weekly News

June 17-23, 2024



Glade Church, a United Church of Christ (UCC) congregation, is a progressive Christian community—welcoming, compassionate, and joyful—seeking to embrace all people wherever they find themselves in life. We strive to discern God’s still-speaking voice through worship, study, fellowship, and service. We work for God’s peace and social, economic, and ecological justice. We seek a greater understanding of ourselves and others, recognizing that all persons are members of our one human family, God’s family.

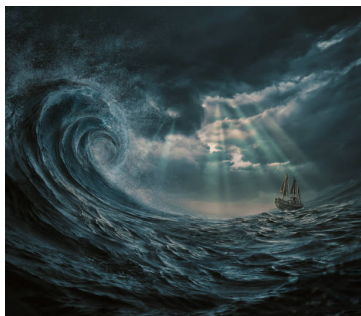
Lectionary Readings for the Week

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 Job 38:1-11 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 Mark 4:35-41

Scripture for the Week

Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 (CEB w/ Inclusive Language)

“Give thanks to God because They are good,
because Their faithful love lasts forever!”
That’s what those who are redeemed by God say,
the ones God redeemed from the power of their enemies,
the ones God gathered from various countries,
from east and west, north and south.
²³ Some of the redeemed had gone out on the ocean in ships,
making their living on the high seas.
²⁴ They saw what the LORD had made;
they saw his wondrous works in the depths of the sea.
²⁵ God spoke and stirred up a storm
that brought the waves up high.
²⁶ The waves went as high as the sky;
they crashed down to the depths.
The sailors’ courage melted at this terrible situation.
²⁷ They staggered and stumbled around like they were drunk.
None of their skill was of any help.
²⁸ So they cried out to the LORD in their distress,
and God brought them out safe from their desperate circumstances.
²⁹ God quieted the storm to a whisper;
the sea’s waves were hushed.
³⁰ So they rejoiced because the waves had calmed down;
then God led them to the harbor they were hoping for.
³¹ Let them thank the LORD for his faithful love
and his wondrous works for all people.
³² Let them exalt God in the congregation of the people
and praise God in the assembly of the elders.



Word for the Week

Deliverance

Pastor Kelly's Comments on the Scripture

Those who are redeemed by God say, "Give thanks to God because They are good, because Their faithful love lasts forever!" This phrase praises God for Their goodness and *hesed* (steadfast love).

Verses 23-32 tell us about the many hard times that God has brought the author through. The seafarers encounter God's activity "in the depths of the sea" (verse 24), amid the waves of the sea (verses 25, 29), and as they descend "to the depths" (verse 26). These locations typically represent cosmic forces of chaos and danger, and the author here look at them to be a worst-case scenario. But even in the face of these great threats against us, we can cry out to God in anticipation of deliverance (verse 28) and we are ready to express thanks for the *hesed* that motivates God's "wondrous works" (verse 31).

Our gratitude is so monumental that we couldn't possibly keep it to ourselves, and the author here encourages us to give our testimony to our faith communities so that they can find hope and peace in our sharing. They will be facing their own high waves! Our testimony can only help them.

Unfortunately, we are immersed in a culture that encourages us to think and act as if we are (or should be) totally self-sufficient, in which case there is no need to ask God (nor anyone else) for help, and no need to thank anyone other than ourselves. Into a context like this, Psalm 107 injects a challenging word—that this illusion of self-sufficiency only sets us up for failure. Our lives depend on God, a God who hears our cries and responds out of an abundance of *hesed* – a love that we see fully embodied in Jesus, who stilled the storm in Mark 4:35-41, the Gospel for the lectionary this week. We need to have the same response to both this Psalm and the Markan gospel text – we must renounce our illusion of self-sufficiency and live in dependence of God, grateful for Their goodness and unfailing love.

Kelly Bryant

Office Days Next Week: Monday the 24th and Tuesday the 25th. Kelly isn't listing hours so as to not place limits on their availability to you. Please contact them for a meeting at a time that fits your schedule on office days. Should you need Pastor Kelly outside of these days, please don't hesitate to contact them. 540-521-9993, bryantkj@gmail.com.

In Other Words

Taken from:

Song of Deliverance

by Zach Williams / Jonathan Lindley Smith / Parker Nohe

<https://youtu.be/iZNXii1gzkh?si=LvnwRZrwGSG1egb6>

Hard times and high waters
On the road that I have wandered
Bridges left burnin'
Lotta dead end learning

Stone walls, I built 'em
Trapped by the way I'm livin'
I don't wanna be a prisoner
No, I don't wanna be a prisoner

So I will sing a song of deliverance
I will lift my hands and drop these chains
Walk out free in Jesus' name
I will sing a song of deliverance
Oh oh Hallelujah oh oh oh
I am free

Announcements for the Week

Join us for worship at 11:00 a.m. every Sunday Morning

Attend in-person at 1600 Glade Rd. Blacksburg, or on Zoom at

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88914981619?pwd=Q3E4Rk95d2llZGtONlVqSDcrMm1xdz09/#_success

Interested in Being Part of the Emergency Response Team?

Let Pastor Kelly know if you are interested in participating in the church's Emergency Response Team.

Signup to Provide Snacks for After Worship Fellowship

There is a [signup sheet outside the sanctuary](#) to sign up to bring a small snack for the fellowship time following worship each Sunday. It can be cookies, fruit, or other small items. Remember, however, that the first Sunday of each month is “Birthday Celebration” when small cakes are welcome.

Opportunities for the Week

Coffee & Devotion Group Meets via Zoom on Wednesday, June 19 at 10:00 am

This virtual get-together meets at 10 a.m. on Zoom and lasts for about an hour for a time to meet people, share thoughts, hear a brief devotion, and join in prayer.

Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89240288592?pwd=KzhRWlJiQTkzWWRIYTNUkRkdPaUNqUT09>

Radical Conversations Meets Saturday, June 22 at 11:00 am

Radical Conversations meets from 11:00-12:15 each Saturday morning at the church. This is a time for open discussion of a wide range of topics. We are currently doing a study of Ezra & Nehemiah + Esther from the Hebrew scriptures. It is a topic with considerable meaning for contemporary times.

Everyone is welcome to this informal discussion and fellowship group – many who attend do not attend Glade and we enjoy a wide variety of opinions in our discussions each week.

Laundry Love is Looking for Volunteers on 1st & 3rd Sunday & 2nd & 4th Thursday

Laundry Love has opportunities to volunteer. This is a great way to put “Words” into “Actions” of faith and love. We do this at the laundromat on North Main across from the Y-Thrift Shop. This is not an “evangelism” outreach and we do not say it is a ministry of Glade Church unless someone asks. Like Jesus, we do this out of love and sharing God’s grace, meeting people where they live.

[VOLUNTEER FOR LAUNDRY LOVE](#)

**JESUS SAID TO
LOVE ONE ANOTHER.
THERE ARE
NO EXCEPTIONS.**



**HAPPY
PRIDE
MONTH**