

OUTREACH

participating in ministries of compassion, justice, and advocacy

{Outward}

MID-NOVEMBER TO MID-DECEMBER'S FOCUS is United Methodist Family Services. We help them put hope into the holidays for children and families in Virginia. Making a check out to Boulevard UMC and designating it UMFS is the way that we ask you to contribute. For them, it's not "just money". Money fuels their ministry, which we have the privilege of supporting. You can also give online by clicking on the mission option.

Boulevard United Methodist Church



Be patient with yourself and while you are at it, be patient with the rest of us too. You cannot follow a shepherd all by yourself, after all. You are stuck with this flock, or some flock, and everyone knows that sheep are, well, sheep. But stick with the flock. It is where your shepherd can be found, which makes it your best bet not only for survival, but also for joy.

- Barbara Brown Taylor

November 26, 2017

boulevardumc@gmail.com
Richmond, Virginia 23220
www.boulevardumc.org

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

We make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world (Matthew 28).

Christ the King Sunday

4:00 pm

Gathering	
Greeting	Rev. Drew Willson
Hymn	<i>Come Let Us With Our Lord Arise</i>
Joys and Concerns	
Pastoral Prayer	
Time with Children	
Music	
First Reading	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Second Reading	Matthew 25:31-46
Sung Prayer	<i>Wait for the Lord</i>
Sermon	Rev. Rachel G. May
Offering Tithes and Gifts	
Doxology	<i>Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!</i>
Hymn	<i>What Feast of Love</i>
The Lord's Supper	
Hymn	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i>
Dismissal with Blessing	

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy God...

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus...

And so,

in remembrance of these, your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,

we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving

as a holy and living sacrifice,

in union with Christ's offering for us,

as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Pour out your Spirit on us, and pour out your Spirit on these gifts...

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Hallowed be thy Name.

Thy kingdom come.

Thy will be done,

On earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

As we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

GIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER



Crossing Boulevard

with Rev. Rachel

³¹ **JUST AS A SHEPHERD** - Matthew 25

I can give you more than one reason to care less about this Sunday.

- (1) It is Christ the King Sunday and it is the DNA of Americans to say no thank-you to Kings. [See the First Continental Congress.]
- (2) Pope Pius XI initiated it. Protestants are therefore exempt.
- (3) Naming Christ as “king” buys into hierarchical ways of imagining good order that can finally only be maintained by force (M.H. Shore).
- (4) It doesn’t say anywhere in Scripture that we should celebrate Christ the King Sunday.

I am inclined to hover over that last reason: *The Bible does not tell us to celebrate Christ the King.*

A while back, I inadvertently stumbled upon an article in which an Anglican priest was writing about wedding bands. Some of his parishioners had asked whether or not they were really important or even necessary. Rings, after all, were a man-made tradition.

This priest’s response was insightful. I thought so, anyway. He gently pointed out how you and I participate in any number of traditions that are barely biblical. Then, this: “It doesn’t say anywhere in Scripture that we should only do things that the Bible itself tells us to do (G. Goebel).”

This particular spiritual leader was not handing out get out of jail free cards for bad behavior. He was inviting an appreciation for the place that tradition holds in our communities of faith.

There are traditions that point to the Gospel—traditions that our forbearers have passed on us to us that are worthy of deep regard when we consider how we will point to the Gospel and advance the kingdom way.

“No, traditions can’t save you. But that doesn’t mean they aren’t important and necessary.”

What is important and even necessary about Christ as Shepherd King... well, that is yours for the holy wondering.

Matthew 25: 31-16

³¹ “Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

³⁴ “Then the king will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. ³⁵ I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’

³⁷ “Then those who are righteous will reply to him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? ³⁸ When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

⁴⁰ “Then the king will reply to them, ‘I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.’

⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² I was hungry and you didn’t give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn’t give me anything to drink. ⁴³ I was a stranger and you didn’t welcome me. I was naked and you didn’t give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn’t visit me.’

⁴⁴ “Then they will reply, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn’t do anything to help you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer, ‘I assure you that when you haven’t done it for one of the least of these, you haven’t done it for me.’ ⁴⁶ And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life.”

NURTURE

caring for one another, for our space, and for our growth as disciples

{Inward}

WE ARE PRAYING for Jim Rickards, Jerry Porter, Grayson Foy, Richard Weeks, Wayne, and Ben Hamrick. Wish to add or restore a name? Say so via the offering plate or the church's e-mail address.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH is up and running! Ms. LaRonda is among us. She's a favorite among students over at Grace Covenant's preschool. After children's moment (approximately 4:15) guardians are invited to accompany infants - 5 year olds to the end of the hallway. They rejoin us for Communion.

ADVENT CALENDAR CRAFTING happens this Sunday at 5:00 pm. What kind of advent calendar? Think: Open frames, clothespins, library card pockets, and an array of embellishments. Kylee Ponder is leading us in some lighthearted crafting. Prior experience: Not needed. Heck, you don't even have to understand why you would want an Advent calendar in the first place. Do join the fun!

DREW WILLSON IN CONCERT at happens on November 28 at Trinity UMC. This concert is free, with childcare for ages 0-4. It starts at 7:00 pm. Drew is working on a recording project. This is a fun, meaningful occasion through which to support him in a commitment to music that blesses us along our way.

A LOOK AT LIFE TOGETHER in numbers.

	Ministry Costs	Your Gifts
November 1 - 18	\$8,376	\$4,873