

September 19, 2021

Psalm 1

My Dear Pastor Barry
and Members of Faith United Methodist Church,

Thank you from the bottom of my heart. Faith United opened it's arms and heart to me, my family and friends. My granddaughter's baptism was very special because of all of you. You have a church family that is warm and loving. I will see you again soon.

Love,
Donna Valentine

¹ Blessed are those
who do not walk in the counsel of the wicked,
**or stand in the way sinners,
or sit in the seat of scoffers;**
² but their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and on God's law they meditate day and night.

³ They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
that yield their fruit in season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

⁴ The wicked are not so,
but are like chaff which the wind drives away.
⁵ **Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;**
⁶ for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

Proverbs 1: 20-33

²⁰ Wisdom calls aloud outside;
She raises her voice in the open squares.
²¹ She cries out in the chief concourses,
At the openings of the gates in the city
She speaks her words:
²² "How long, you simple ones, will you love simplicity?
For scorners delight in their scorning,
And fools hate knowledge.
²³ Turn at my rebuke;
Surely I will pour out my spirit on you;
I will make my words known to you.
²⁴ Because I have called and you refused,
I have stretched out my hand and no one regarded,
²⁵ Because you disdained all my counsel,

And would have none of my rebuke,
²⁶ I also will laugh at your calamity;
I will mock when your terror comes,
²⁷ When your terror comes like a storm,
And your destruction comes like a whirlwind,
When distress and anguish come upon you.

²⁸ “Then they will call on me, but I will not answer;
They will seek me diligently, but they will not find me.

²⁹ Because they hated knowledge
And did not choose the fear of the LORD,

³⁰ They would have none of my counsel
And despised my every rebuke.

³¹ Therefore they shall eat the fruit of their own way,
And be filled to the full with their own fancies.

³² For the turning away of the simple will slay them,
And the complacency of fools will destroy them;

³³ But whoever listens to me will dwell safely,
And will be secure, without fear of evil.”

St. James 3: 13-4:3, 7-8a

¹³ Who *is* wise and understanding among you? Let him show by good conduct *that* his works *are done* in the meekness of wisdom. ¹⁴ But if you have bitter envy and self-seeking in your hearts, do not boast and lie against the truth. ¹⁵ This wisdom does not descend from above, but *is* earthly, sensual, demonic. ¹⁶ For where envy and self-seeking *exist*, confusion and every evil thing *are* there. ¹⁷ But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality and without hypocrisy. ¹⁸ Now the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

4 ¹Where do wars and fights *come* from among you?

Do *they* not *come* from your *desires for* pleasure that war in your members? ² You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend *it* on your pleasures.

⁷ Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. ⁸ Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.

St. Mark 9: 30-37

³⁰ Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know *it*. ³¹ For He taught His disciples and said to them, “The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day.” ³² But they did not understand this saying, and were afraid to ask Him.

³³ Then He came to Capernaum. And when He was in the house He asked them, “What was it you disputed among yourselves on the road?” ³⁴ But they kept silent, for on the road they had disputed among themselves who *would be the* greatest. ³⁵ And He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “If anyone desires to be first, he shall be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶ Then He took a little child and set him in the midst of them. And when He had taken him in His arms, He said to them, ³⁷ “Whoever receives one of these little children in My name receives Me; and whoever receives Me, receives not Me but Him who sent Me.”