

MOVING SPIRIT

June, 2003

Eskaton Village Community Church

Pastor's Parcel

As a mother tucked in her little boy, a noisy storm beat against his bedroom window. She noticed his fright and tried to assure him that God was there to keep him safe. He protested, "*But I need a God with skin on!*" He was right. We do.

Any concept of personality we have came first from other humans, usually parents or siblings, as we grew into our own identities. The voices of others and the touch of other hands continued to build our experience of personality. So, when our minds turn to thoughts of God, to the ultimate Personality, there is an inner longing for *a God with skin on!*

Christian faith is comforting because it has such a God. He loved us enough to put on humanity and visit the race He created in His image. It wasn't a sight-seeing tour or a temporary arrangement. John 1:14 says, "*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.*" This terminology means, "*He made a home.*" The body He died in, was raised in, and ascended in, is the same He's returning with. This is the *down-to-earth* theology humans need! His substitutionary death on the Cross, changed our own death from a *period* into a *comma*. Eternity for



us will not be foreign to our humanness, our *in-the-flesh* human experience. God may have other plans for angels, but we get new bodies! Christ's resurrection was the down-payment on ours!

In the meantime, it's Pentecost. Jesus has come to us by His Holy Spirit. We are not without His presence for the rest of our personal journey, and its storms.

---Pastor David Hatton

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Parish Proclamations

A New Church Service in the Lodge!
EVCC is happy to announce that it will be extending its ministry at Eskaton with a second church service in the ALU. This means a time change of thirty minutes for the existing church service in the Music

Room. Presently we meet at 10:30 AM . The new time will be **10:00 AM**, ending at **11:00 AM**. The second service will be shorter, running from **11:15AM** to **11:45AM**. The date we will begin the services in the ALU (and the date of the time change for the present service in the Music Room is **Sunday, JULY 13th**.

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Personal Pulpit

THE 2nd TEN COMMANDMENTS
(Whoever contributed this wrote: "I am guilty of breaking all these!")

1. *Thou shall not worry*; for worry is the most unproductive of all human activities.
2. *Thou shall not be fearful*; for most of the things we fear never come to pass.
3. *Thou shall not cross bridges before you come to them*; for no one yet has succeeded in accomplishing this.
4. *Thou shall face each problem as it comes*; you can only handle one at a time anyway.
5. *Thou shall not take problems to bed with you*; for they make very poor bedfellows.
6. *Thou shall not borrow other people's problems*; they can better care for them than you can.
7. *Thou shall not try to relive yesterday for good or ill*, it is forever gone; concentrate on what is happening in your life and be happy now.
8. *Thou shall be a good listener*; for only when you listen do you hear different ideas from your own. (It's hard to learn something new when you're talking.)

9. *Thou shall not become "bogged down" by frustration*; for 90% of it is rooted in self-pity and will only interfere with positive actions.

10. *Thou shall count thy blessings*; never overlooking the small ones, for a lot of small blessings add up to a big one.

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Pithy Pieces

Hide not your talents:

For use they were made!

What's a sundial in the shade?

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Nothing dries sooner than a tear.

Be yourself-but be your best self. Dare to be different and to follow your own star. And don't be afraid to be happy. Enjoy what is beautiful. Love with all your heart and soul.

Forget what you have done for your friends, and remember what they have done for you. Disregard what the world owes you, and concentrate on what you owe the world.

When you are faced with a decision, make that decision as wisely as possible-then forget it. The moment of absolute certainty never arrives.

Act as if everything depended upon you, and pray as if everything depended upon God. --S. H. Payer

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First of all, God brought me here; it is by His will I am in this strait place: in that fact I will rest. Next, He will keep me here in His love, and give me grace to behave as His child. Then, He will make the trial a blessing, teaching me the

lessons He intends me to learn, and working in me the grace He means to bestow. Last, in His good time He can bring me out again -- how and when, He knows. So I am here (1) by God's appointment, (2) in His keeping, (3) under His training, (4) for His time.

-- Andrew Murray

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Praise's Portion

MY LIFE HAS BEEN A HAPPY ONE

My life has been a happy one
My God has made it so
He took my hand when I was young
And He showed me the way to go

As I look back some sixty years
How grateful is my heart
For I had found my perfect love
Together we did start

Now as we all sit together here
And I look in each dear face
My heart is simply overwhelmed
At His amazing grace!

Each face I love for who you are
And what you mean to me
I thank our God every single day
For you, my family.
(poem written by one of Sally Lyon
Smith's dear friends)

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Everyone was meant to share
God's all-abiding love and care;
He saw that we would need to know
A way to let these feelings show...

So God made hugs.... -- Jill Wolf

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Prayer's Priority

WHAT IS PRAYER?

And what is prayer, you ask of me?
It's talking with God in secrecy;
it's looking up with tear-filled eyes
into the face of heaven's skies;
it's wanting strength to conquer strife,
and blessings rich to gladden life;
It's telling God was in your heart,
Entreating Him to take your part;
it's drawing near to touch His hand,
it's hugging him to understand;
it's promising to do your best,
it matters not how hard the test;
it's gratitude for favors past,
a hope that they may ever last.
A rod that bars the way of sin
and keeps the soul at peace within.
A prayer is this, the thought that goes
with folks all day until its close.

-- Zelda Howard Davis

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The Blessing is "No"

I asked God to take away my pride.
God said "*No*,
It is not for me to take away, but for you
to give it up."
I asked God to make my handicapped
child whole.
God said "*No*,
Her spirit is whole, her body is only
temporary."
I asked God to grant me patience.
God said "*No*,
Patience is by-product of tribulations; it
isn't granted it is earned."

I asked God to give me happiness.
God said "No,
I give you blessings, happiness is up to
you."
I asked God to spare me pain.
God said "No,
Suffering draws you apart from worldly
cares and brings you closer to me."
I asked God to make my spirit grow.
God said "No,
You must grow on your own, but I will
prune you to make you fruitful."
I asked for all things, that I might enjoy
life.
God said "No,
I will give you life so that you may enjoy
all things."
I asked God to help me LOVE others, as
He loves me.
God said, "Ahhh, finally you have the
idea!"

-- unknown

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Indian Prayer

Great Spirit, Grant that I may not
criticize my neighbors until I have
walked a mile in his moccasins.

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Poetry's Place

I AM WITH YOU

"Lo, I am with you always,"
To mourning friends was said
By Jesus, glorified with life,
When risen from the dead.

"Lo, I am with you always,"
Was meant for everyone
Who knows the Truth, that He is now
God's own beloved Son.

Rejoice and sing, O troubled heart,
This comfort you may know
For He is with you always,
No matter where you go.

--Florence Walker Jones

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IF I WOULD SOAR

If I would soar, as eagles do,
With purpose strong and spirit free,
I first must find the heart and mind
And perfect will of God for me.

For when God's hand stirs not the breeze
And stays the storm winds' angry run,
My tired soul beats hard its wings,
But cannot rise to meet the sun.

Then let the storm winds lift me up;
I'll rest my wings on God alone,
The while I soar, as eagles do,
To find His rainbow 'round His throne.

--Hettie Lou Down

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Pearls of Prudence

God's strength behind you, His concern
for you, His love within you, and His
arms beneath you, are more than
sufficient for the job ahead of you.

-- William Arthur Ward.

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Lost, somewhere between sunrise in
sunset, sixty golden minutes.
Each set with sixty diamond seconds.
No reward is offered for they are gone
forever.

-- Horace Mann

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By all means use sometimes to be alone,
Salute thyself: see what thy soul doth

wear.

Dare to look in thy chest: for 'tis thy own:
And tumble up and down what thou
find'st there.

Who cannot rest till he good fellows find,
He breaks up house, turns out of doors
his mind.

--George Herbert, 1593-1632

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You will never stub your toes standing
still. The faster you go, the more chance
there is of stubbing your toe, the more
chance you have of getting somewhere.

-- Charles F. Kettering, industrialist

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Let any person who is confused be sure
to things; (1) If one duty is perfectly
clear, then our course is laid out for us,
and we can cooperate with God or defy
him. There is no other choice. (2) If our
duty is not perfectly plain, then we need
not move until God has made it plain. It
often happens that the highest dedication
requires us to "wait upon the Lord."

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Pleasurable Pastime

MEN

(selected for Father's Day)

Men are good
For paying bills,
Buying food,
Tending mills,
Driving nails,
Sawing boards,
Poisoning snails,
Mowing yards,
Stringing vines,
Cutting weeds,

Buying wines,
Wearing tweeds,
Unstopping drains,
Stopping drips,
Meeting trains,
Carrying grips,
Building ladders,
For the house,
Taking women
For to spouse.

-- Ella G. White

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Precious Principles

There's a lot of consolation
In the handclasp of a friend.
It can wipe out desolation,
And bring heartache to an end.
It can soothe a troubled spirit
Like no magic in the land.
Heaven? You are pretty near it --
Win a good friend grips her hand.

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Blessed are they who have the gift of
making friends, for is one of God's best
gifts. It involves many things, but above
all, the power of getting out of one's self
and appreciating whatever is noble and
loving in another.

--Thomas Hughes

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One, two, what ever you do.
Start it well and carry it through.
If wrinkles must be written upon our
brows, let them not be written upon the
heart. The spirit should not grow old.

--James A. Garfield

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The world needs...

A little more kindness and a little less creed,
A little more giving and a little less greed;
A little more smile and a little less frown,
A little less kicking a man when he's down;
A little more "we" and a little less "i,"
A little more laugh and a little less cry;
A few more flowers on the pathway of life,
And fewer on graves at the end of the strife.

-- author unknown
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Be joyful always; pray continually; give
thanks in all circumstances, for this is
God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

-- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18
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Past Pathways

DEAR ABBY: I've never been one to
cry, but my grandfather, Jesse "Mim"
Toney, died in October 1996, and I miss
him. He was a hero. A real hero. Not just
because he was General George S.
Patton's chauffeur and valet during World
War II, but because of who he was. His
life taught me something I need to share.
It's something we are losing as

individuals, as families, and even as a
country. It's something that is there, like
faith, even when everything else falls
apart. You need it. I need it. The whole
world needs it. You can't build enough of
it. It won't leave you when times get
tough. It will carry you. It's what makes
real men and women honorable. It's being
underappreciated. It's what grew the
fastest the weaker he got. It was his
character! Yes, character. Like respect, it
is not something you ask for; it's
something you earn. Like strength, it's not
something granted; it's developed. It may
only count to those who have it - but
character counts. He was not impressed
by what someone accomplished, but by
what they had overcome. That's
character. He didn't take the easy way.
He took the right way. That's character.
He accepted responsibility for his actions,
faced the consequences without
complaint and lived his life the best he
could. That's character. His road map
was the Scriptures; his compass was his
heart; his passion was his family; his
character was his art. That's what he
taught me, and I think the message is
worth repeating.

-- JEFF POWELL, DUBLIN, OHIO

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