



The Glendale New Church  
845 Congress Ave. Glendale, OH 45246 513-772-1478

# The Precursor

November 2020

## Our Mission:

The Glendale New Church connects heaven to earth by worshiping the Lord God Jesus Christ; discovering eternal truths in His Word; promoting spiritual awareness; and fostering community

## Announcements

We will not be meeting in person for at least the next few months. We will have a Thanksgiving gathering, but exactly what it will look like is still being determined!

And Trillium Small Group Experiences will continue to host online small groups

Please see:

[www.trilliumsmallgroupcenter.com](http://www.trilliumsmallgroupcenter.com)

## FROM THE WORD

John said to Jesus, "Teacher, we saw someone using your name to cast out demons, but we told him to stop because he wasn't in our group." "Don't stop him!" Jesus said. "No one who performs a miracle in my name will soon be able to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. If anyone gives you even a cup of water because you belong to the Messiah, I tell you the truth, that person will surely be rewarded. But if you cause one of these little ones who trusts in me to fall into sin, it would be better for you to be thrown into the sea with a large millstone hung around your neck. If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It's better to enter eternal life with only one hand than to go into the unquenchable fires of hell with two hands. If your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It's better to enter eternal life with only one foot than to be thrown into hell with two feet. And if your eye causes you to sin, gouge it out. It's better to enter the Kingdom of God with only one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell, 'where the maggots never die and the fire never goes out.'\* For everyone will be tested with fire. Salt is good for seasoning. But if it loses its flavor, how do you make it salty again? You must have the qualities of salt among yourselves and live in peace with each other." Mark 9:38-50 \*9:48 Isa 66:24.

"If your foot causes you to stumble cut it off....A foot which has to be cut off if it causes stumbling symbolizes the natural [level of being] which constantly sets itself against the spiritual [level of being] and has to be destroyed if it is trying to crush truths. Therefore, because of the disagreement and contrary-mindedness of the natural of a person, it is preferable to be governed by simple goodness, even though truth is denied." Secrets of Heaven §4302

"Those in heaven who are preeminently in intelligence and wisdom ... are in such humility that they ascribe all their power to the Lord and none whatever to themselves. Because their only desire is to serve, they find no glory or joy in ruling over others."

*Secrets of Heaven §9039:3*

## FROM THE PASTOR

Jesus hand-picked the Apostles and they were his exclusive tribe for many months. He established a safe connection with them. We have all experienced this. However, sad to say, many of us have experienced being pushed out of our community. It is a terrible experience. Being part of a community is built into all levels of creation. Plants and trees support each other in hidden ways and even communicate by chemicals released from their

roots! A pack of animals can survive when an individual could not. We have all experienced God's intention for humans to be in relationships of all kinds and degrees. When a person feels safe, it is possible for them to have an open heart and welcome everybody into the healing process the God provides.

Another key point Jesus is making here is that there's nothing special about being a human being. There's nothing special about needing to be saved or transformed. We all do. So to ascribe to ourselves some special power or special status not only cuts off others from us making them feel excluded, and it cuts us off from the relationships necessary for our spiritual survival. We will no longer feel safe and secure, even in the arms of our Savior. We will constantly feel like we have to prove ourselves and we have to have the right belief. Jesus made sure to say again and again, "Those who do good to each other are all saved. They are all able to be transformed because they are in relationship with me." He reminded them of a little child. "Everyone that comes to me," He said, "is a little child."

Isn't that wonderful? We can let go of all the "adult" sophistication and all the knowledge, and simply become deeply aware of and connected to our love for God, for each other, and for ourselves. While it may be difficult, it is very simple. In that child-like innocence, we are willing to follow the Lord to do what He says because we feel safe and secure in his love.

He says more, it seems, in order to give the complete picture. He tells a gut-wrenching parable. It is important to remember that he is using parables to raise their attention above the things in this world, and to let them know that it is his spirit, and the spirit of his Word that transforms us, that saves us. He used three examples: the hand, the foot, and the eye. To cut off your hand or your foot, or take out an eye was tantamount to a death sentence. Surely those Apostles knew that Jesus was telling a parable here and he was bringing their attention to what cuts one's self off from the kingdom of God. He was alerting them to look to the spiritual healing power of the spirit of God, here embodied in Jesus.

Whenever we notice we are using our power to sin – to do that which separates us from God and our neighbor – then we have to get rid of our "hand," the means to misuse the power. Yes, it does feel like we are cutting ourselves off from power, but Jesus is saying, "If you love me and if you love your neighbor, you will know that, because you cut off your "hand" you will enter my kingdom where you will be healed!"

Our feet carry us along our path of life. If we are taking ourselves into sin, if we are making choices that are materialistic, if we are viewing the world selfishly, if we are saying and acting in certain ways that are cutting us off from our love of God and cutting us off from our love of our neighbor, then we need to get stop that walk. We need to stop doing it. Spiritually speaking, if we continue in that path, we will end up burning up in our own resentments and lust and regrets.

Our eye is the organ of faith. Our faith is what we see to be true. If our lens becomes tinted with falsity, then we are going to see things wrongly, are will are prone to sin, to not perceive the love of God and the love of other people. We will begin to use our beliefs to separate ourselves from God and from people, and from the love of God flowing in. False ideas will continue to eat away at our rationality, and evil lose will continue to fire a passion for evil. We have to remove the lens by taking those selfish and materialistic ideas out of our mind.

That can be very difficult. It can feel like we're cutting ourselves off from our power. Indeed our ego has to be set aside. It feels like we're hobbling ourselves in this life when in fact it's freeing us up to walk more powerfully and farther in life.

So as harsh as these teachings sound, it is a reminder that Jesus is modeling for us how to feel connected, how to listen to each other, how to speak to each other, how to walk along the way with each other, how to look at each other, and so feel connected. Once we feel safe that way, then love flows freely, ideas flow freely, disagreements are overcome because you love each other, and we feel saved. Everyone is welcomed into the community. Everyone finds their own community. We are empowered, we see the way to go, and we're not ever blind. Jesus is reminding us that love for hi and our neighbor is using his power for good, travelling along his way, and seeing the vision he has for your eternal life, safely in his arms, I his kingdom.

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Mindfulness, Cognitive Therapy, Spiritual Development

[www.trilliumsmallgroupcenter.com](http://www.trilliumsmallgroupcenter.com)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 7pm - Practicing	3 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	4 7:30am - Yoga	5 5:45pm - Yoga	6	7 10am - Yoga
8 11am - Online Worship	9 7pm - Practicing	10 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	11 7:30am - Yoga	12 5:45pm - Yoga	13 1pm - Kirkpatrick/Cookman	14 10am - Yoga
15	16 7pm - Practicing	17 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	18 7:30am - Yoga	19 5:45pm - Yoga	20	21 10am - Yoga 2pm - Dettmer/Woodrey
22	23 7pm - Practicing	24 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	25 7:30am - Yoga	26 11am - Thanksgiving Day 5:45pm - Yoga	27	28 10am - Yoga
29	30	1	2	3	4	5

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	1 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	2 7:30am - Yoga	3 5:45pm - Yoga	4	5 10am - Yoga
6	7	8 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	9 7:30am - Yoga	10 5:45pm - Yoga	11	12 10am - Yoga
13 11am - Online Worship	14	15 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	16 7:30am - Yoga	17 5:45pm - Yoga	18 2pm - Wedding	19 10am - Yoga
20	21	22 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	23 7:30am - Yoga	24 5:45pm - Yoga	25	26 10am - Yoga
27	28	29 10am - Yoga 5:45pm - Yoga	30 7:30am - Yoga	31 5:45pm - Yoga	1	2

## *Schedule*

November 2020

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Worship Service (type and time)</b>
<b>11/1</b>	Work Party any time
<b>11/8</b>	Work Party any time
<b>11/15</b>	Work Party any time
<b>11/22</b>	Work Party any time
<b>11/26</b>	<i>Thanksgiving!</i>
<b>11/29</b>	Work Party any time

December 2020

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Worship Service (type and time)</b>
<b>12/6</b>	Work Party any time
<b>12/13</b>	Work Party any time
<b>12/20</b>	Work Party any time
<b>12/25</b>	<i>Christmas!</i>
<b>12/27</b>	Work Party any time

*Keep calm and carry on!*

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