



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

The Precursor

May 2021

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

If you are looking for videos of worship services from around the world, check out newchurch.org and swedenborg.org for links to congregations that record their services.

We look forward to worshiping together outdoors as soon as the weather permits!

FROM THE WORD

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came over and spoke to him. "Teacher," they said, "we want you to do us a favor." "What is your request?" he asked. They replied, "When you sit on your glorious throne, we want to sit in places of honor next to you, one on your right and the other on your left." But Jesus said to them, "You don't know what you are asking! Are you able to drink from the bitter cup of suffering I am about to drink? Are you able to be baptized with the baptism of suffering I must be baptized with?" "Oh yes," they replied, "we are able!" Then Jesus told them, "You will indeed drink from my bitter cup and be baptized with my baptism of suffering. But I have no right to say who will sit on my right or my left. Those places are for those for whom they are prepared."

When the ten other disciples heard what James and John had asked, they were indignant. So Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers in this world lord it over their people, and officials flaunt their authority over those under them. But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many." Mark 10:35-45

Anyone who has love or who has mercy is interceding constantly, as the following examples demonstrate: The husband who loves his wife wishes her to be well-received and well-treated by others. He does not express his wish in actual words, but it is constantly in his thinking, so that he is silently requesting it and interceding for her. Parents do the same thing for their children whom they love. It is likewise what a person governed by charity does for their neighbor, and what one moved by friendship does for a friend. These examples show that intercession is present unceasingly in all love. The same is true of the Lord's intercession for the human race, especially for those with whom the goodness

and truth of faith are present. The Lord shows Divine - that is, infinite - love, and Divine - that is, infinite - mercy. The Lord does not pray to the Father for people and intercede in that way, for then he would be acting in a merely human manner. Rather he is constantly excusing and constantly forgiving, because he is constantly showing mercy. from Secrets of Heaven §8573

FROM THE PASTOR

It is easy to find delightful videos of children being loving, kind and generous to each other. This puts a lie to the stereotype that all children are always selfish and self-centered. Likewise, the Apostles are stereotypical models of faith, courage and adult relationships. And then we come to this seemingly immature request for intercession, which rightly disturbs the others in the fellowship.

Watch now, how Jesus responds and again models for us his self assurance and secure attachment with his followers and with his Father. These men have been with Jesus for nearly three years; they were just told a third time that he was going to die as part of his mission to establish the Kingdom; and yet they continue to think that their glory would be achieved by having power.

One of my first thoughts is to criticize the disciples for being immature. Jesus' response to his followers instead affirms the deeper, primary emotion, from which they were operating. I let go of my first reaction to them, and I become curious about the underlying, primary emotion and the attachment needs they are manifesting. James and John fear the immanent loss of their beloved rabbi. They are deeply convinced that he is the promised Messiah. The brothers share their agony (interestingly leaving Peter out of the conversation. Perhaps they know he is too anxious already!). They impulsively reach out to Jesus for the comfort that they would not be abandoned (one of the deepest fears humans can experience).

The ten others overhear this plea for intercession and react angrily. Obviously, there are only two closest positions to the Messiah. In their upset (their brain's dysregulation interfering with their ability to think!), they assume James and John are reaching for power so they can be in charge. Or the ten think the brothers believe they are better than the rest and deserve the honor. They verbally object.

Here is the lesson: Jesus corrects their notions while reducing their upset. He does not confront them but acknowledges the underlying need

for connection they are fearful of losing. And he includes all of them in the corrected view.

All of us have a more or less conscious desire for security, love, and joy. We want repeated assurance that Someone is taking care that we have a chance for having those needs met. We can tolerate not knowing if we experience our loved one caring about our need, even if they cannot themselves fulfill it. Humans are created with the need for connection. And we must achieve it on our own or it will not be truly ours. So there is a part of all of us – a lower part of our being – that repeatedly seeks an intercession to take care of us. And they are a part in all of us – a deeper part of our being – that wants to assure our loved one that all will be well. The love is constantly intervening to protect our loved one, and to give assurance that all will be well.

Jesus reminds us that fulfilling the deep attachment need for connection is met not by external forces and someone else interceding. It is met by going on a journey which lasts our whole life. There will be difficult times. Like when someone we care about gets angry at us. Or when we fail to care for another, by mistake or on purpose! Knowing that our God is forgiving us all along the way energizes us and keeps us putting one foot in front of the other for one more day.

And Jesus reminds us that there will be a death that ends a segment of our journey. Our ego will die. A deeply held selfish or worldly desire will die. A long-sought dream of honor or power will die. We suffer the fear of that death. We go through that suffering, we keep moving, because we have the thought that we are loved. We keep on because we experience the presence of unconditional love that has no condemnation or criticism, even while the experience changes our view of our life.

Our daily task is to stop and notice our wish for intercession, and then to let it go in favor of the assurance that we will continue to love and be loved and so safe and securely connected. With practice, we can more quickly and more easily go through this ordeal, and experience the resurrection that will always come.

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Mindfulness, Cognitive Therapy, Spiritual Development

www.trilliumsmallgroupcenter.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 10am - Yoga
2 11am - Online Worship -	3	4 5:45pm - Yoga	5	6	7	8 10am - Yoga
9 11am - No NCoM Service 11am - Online Worship 7:30pm - ES Study	10	11 5:45pm - Yoga	12	13	14	15 10am - Yoga
16 11am - Online Worship -	17	18 5:45pm - Yoga	19	20	21	22 10am - Yoga
23 11am - No NCoM Service 7:30pm - ES Study	24	25 5:45pm - Yoga	26	27	28	29 10am - Yoga 3pm - Scherman/Gordon
30 11am - Online Worship	31	1	2	3	4	5

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
30	31	1 5:45pm - Yoga	2	3	4	5 10am - Yoga
6 11am - Online Worship -	7	8 5:45pm - Yoga	9	10	11	12 10am - Yoga
13 11am - No NCoM Service 11am - Online Worship 7:30pm - ES Study	14	15 5:45pm - Yoga	16	17	18	19 10am - Yoga
20 11am - NC Day Celebration	21	22 5:45pm - Yoga	23	24	25	26 10am - Yoga
27 11am - No NCoM Service 7:30pm - ES Study	28	29 5:45pm - Yoga	30	1	2	3

Schedule

May 2021

DATE	Worship Service (type and time)
5/2	Work Party any time
5/9	11:00 am – Online Worship
5/16	Work Party any time
5/23	Work Party any time
5/30	Work Party any time

June 2021

DATE	Worship Service (type and time)
6/6	Work Party any time
6/13	11:00 am – Online Worship
6/20	Work Party any time
6/27	Work Party any time

Keep calm and carry on!

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