



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

# The Precursor

June - July 2022

## Our Mission:

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

## Announcements

The memorial service for Helene Howard will be held in the chapel at Otterbein in Lebanon, OH on Saturday, July 9. The time will be approximately 10:30am. Let Clark (jcechols@gmail.com) or Dion (dgladish@aol.com) know if you want to be told the details when they are settled.

Our next in person worship service will be July 10 at 11 AM in the Sanctuary, followed by a Special Meeting of the Society.

## FROM THE WORD

It was now two days before Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread. The leading priests and the teachers of religious law were still looking for an opportunity to capture Jesus secretly and kill him. "But not during the Passover celebration," they agreed, "or the people may riot."

Meanwhile, Jesus was in Bethany at the home of Simon, a man who had previously had leprosy. While he was eating, a woman came in with a beautiful alabaster jar of expensive perfume made from essence of nard. She broke open the jar and poured the perfume over his head. Some of those at the table were indignant. "Why waste such expensive perfume?" they asked. "It could have been sold for a year's wages and the money given to the poor!" So they scolded her harshly. But Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. Why criticize her for doing such a good thing to me? You will always have the poor among you, and you can help them whenever you want to. But you will not always have me. She has done what she could and has anointed my body for burial ahead of time. I tell you the truth, wherever the Good News is preached throughout the world, this woman's deed will be remembered and discussed."

*Mark 14:1-9*

The reason why 'the head' means the whole Human, or the whole person, is that everything in the human being comes down from the head, for the body is an extension from the head. Therefore also what a person thinks or wills, an activity that takes place in the head, presents itself in the body as an effect. The situation with the head is like that with what is highest or inmost in the heavens. This comes down and flows into heavens below, bringing them into being and making them extensions from itself. From this it is evident that since God is the inmost in all things, and is the highest of them all, from Him alone comes the life that all things possess. Therefore insofar as a person receives what is of God he has life within him.

*From Secrets of Heaven §10011*

## FROM THE PASTOR

What do you make of Jesus' accurate prediction that there will always be poor people? Was Jesus a cynic? Is Jesus saying that poverty is not a curse?

And is the woman's preparation for his death defeatist? Or a deep and even spiritual, appreciation of the process of redemption that Jesus was performing, which had to include his death so that there could be a resurrection?

As we are here exploring how Jesus modeled a secure attachment of love and healthy boundaries, what are the implications of his response to the attitude that the woman wasted the resource that could have solved poverty?

In this approach, "poverty" is a metaphor for lacking sufficient truth or wisdom to be able to live a good life. So, of course, we will always be poor. And when we do have "wealth," it is actually love that we do not own. All that we have is a gift that is to be expressed for others – given away, as it were.

Further, Jesus is saying that doing good deeds that are truly good for oneself and others have to be the expression of this love, as distinct from rescuing others from what we perceive to be their problem. Modern social work recognizes that poverty is only one part of a systemic condition that prevents people from taking care of themselves and their children. In fact, there are more fundamental issues than poverty. Institutional racism, for instance.

Jesus is modeling here, then, the attention we are to give to our spiritual way of being as fundamental to our being able to walk with others on their journey. There will always be times when we, or someone else, lacks the wisdom to do what is good. Our task is to prepare for those times by participating in our redemption by means of death and resurrection.

So the woman acts out her devotion to the process, recognizing the price we all need to pay if we are to follow Jesus' model of giving up all we hold valuable in our merely natural thinking and live from the deeper truth that a part of us must die if we wish our higher self to live.

It begins in our "head," the foundational beliefs and loves we have. When we believe that our joy derives from our desires being met, we will spend our resources to create that joy for everyone. Our work for success is motivated by the noble desire to fix everyone's circumstances. Our sense that we have done good reduces our despair that the work is never-ending.

Jesus' reaction to the woman anointing his head alerts us to a different view of success. It's "head" is divine love given to us so that we may be a conduit through which it passes. Our effort is to let go of our notions of what is valuable and accept unconditional love from God, even though it leads to the rejection of our lower self (even that part that mistakenly believes it can fix poverty).

If Jesus is not being cynical, he is modeling a new view of the purpose of living. If the woman is not wasting resources, she is attending to the deeper, spiritual source of our beliefs and desires. There will be a revelation when we live secure in our connection to God. We will forget ourselves and live unselfishly in the most authentic manner possible.

**Clark Echols, MDiv, PC**

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Mindfulness, Cognitive Therapy, Spiritual Development

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

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	1	2 6pm - At Toots 6pm - Yoga	3 4:30pm - Clark/Smith rehearsal	4 10am - Yoga 11:45am - Clark/Smith wedding
5	6 7pm - Choose Joy Now Small	7 2pm - Mtg w/ Pete Buss 5:45pm - Yoga	8	9 6pm - Yoga	10 7am - Lifestyle	11 10am - Yoga
12 11am - Worship with Pastor Clark	13	14 5:45pm - Yoga	15	16 6pm - Yoga	17	18 10am - Yoga
19	20	21 5:45pm - Yoga	22	23 6pm - Yoga	24	25 10am - Yoga
26	27	28 5:45pm - Yoga	29	30 6pm - Yoga	1	2

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

## *Schedule*

June 2022

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Worship Service (type and time)</b>
<b>6/5</b>	
<b>6/12</b>	11:00 am –Worship and Holy Supper Service at Church
<b>6/19</b>	11:00 am –New Church of Montgomery Church Service
<b>6/26</b>	

July 2022

<b>DATE</b>	<b>Worship Service (type and time)</b>
<b>7/3</b>	
<b>7/10</b>	11:00 am –Worship Service at Church and Special Meeting
<b>7/17</b>	
<b>7/24</b>	
<b>7/31</b>	

*Keep calm and carry on!*

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