

LENTEN SERMON SERIES February 18 - March 31

# Disordered Desires: Overcoming 7 of Our Very Favorite Sins

Will Willimon says that church is “lifelong learning in how to be a sinner.” Once we own up to the fact that sinning is part of who we are, or that we have “disordered desires,” then we



can honestly confront the persistency and complexity of good gifts from God that we have a tendency to misuse, so that we become separated from God. During the seven weeks of Lent, join us as we focus on the gifts beyond the sin, and as we consider how we can live lives worthy of our calling.

If you have a prayer request, please forward the request to the church office. We will include it on the prayer request list for a month, unless you request for us to leave it on longer.



Mission Partners and Liaisons

Local: HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS	Local: OUTREACH & INCLUSION	INTERNATIONAL
ForKids - Marie Finch	Faith Inclusion Network - Lori Crouch	Ben Seidl in Germany - Craig Wansink
St. Columba - Alice Allen-Grimes	YOURS - Larry Hull	Jenn West in Ireland - Paul West
St. Mary’s Soup Kitchen - Larry Hull	Tidewater Pastoral Counseling Services - Catherine Hart Monroe	The Jungs in East Asia - Roz Klein
LAUNCH Ministry - Joe Morgan		Our Partners in M.E. - Mark Erickson
The Norfolk Street Choir Project - Rich Voter		

2024 Session and Ministry Teams

Larry Hull, Clerk of Session

DISCIPLESHIP	MISSION	ADMINISTRATION
Lynn Ruehlmann	Tami Ndahi	Philip Byrd
Erin Todd	Mark Erickson	Wendy Horner
Lisa Dubey	Chris Siemering	Sam Stearns
Sandy Simmermon		Rich Voter
Peggy Haile McPhillips		

Staff

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Andrea Franklin Matheson, Coordinator of Intergenerational Outreach		
Tom Libbey, Facility Manager		
Joe Morgan, Maintenance Specialist		
Barbara Watson, Housekeeper and Host		



Whether we are old or young, whether we are first-time or longtime worshipers, whether we come full of doubts or confidence, joy or sorrow, in this place we all are family, because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. Welcome!

Chiming Ringing of the bells indicates the beginning of worship.

## We Gather In Need of the Risen Christ

### Gathering in Musical Meditation

We listen:	As morning breaks, I look to you, I look to you to be my strength this day.
We sing together:	As morning breaks, we look to you, we look to you to be our strength this day.

### Call to Worship

- Day by day, God leads us:  
to the deep, deep pools of peace, to the green, lush lawns of grace.
- Day by day, Jesus calls us:  
to pour out ourselves in service, to anoint others with hope.
- Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:  
the community we could be, the family we are called to become.

### Welcome

### \*Passing the Peace

"Sloth is most often evidenced in busyness ... in frantic running around, trying to be everything to everyone, and then having no time to listen or pray, no time to become the person who is doing these things."

—Eugene H. Peterson

"There are times when one is tempted to say that the great, sprawling, lethargic sin of sloth is the oldest and greatest of the sins and the parent of all the rest."

—Dorothy L. Sayers

# We Recognize Our Need to Grow Closer to God

## \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 527 “Come Away from Rush and Hurry”  
“... come... to seek and find God’s grace.”

## \*Confessing our Sin

Gracious God, we come before you today knowing that we often fall short of your call to love one another well. Strengthen us to reach out in service to those who are in need. Make us aware of those outside our own communities that we may see them as your precious children and serve them in humility and joy. Help us to see your great generosity, hear your word of mercy, and feel your great love for all who need your redemptive grace. Amen.

Congregation sings together:

Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.  
Let not my doubts or my darkness speak to me.  
Lord Jesus Christ, your light shines within us.  
Let my heart always welcome your love.

## \*Receiving Grace

In Christ, God hears, God answers, God sets us free.  
Believe this good new: in Christ Jesus we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!

# We Hear the Word

## Time of Discovery

## Message

“The Kingdom of God”: Beyond Sloth  
Proverbs 6:6-11, Philippians 4:8-13

Rev. Catherine Hart Monroe

# We Respond in Humility

## \*Singing Our Faith Together

No. 303 “Healer of Our Every Ill”  
“... beholding how your grace is still unfolding...”

## Mission and Ministry of the Church

## Offering Gratitude

As you offer thanks for God’s presence in your life,  
write down on a piece of paper one way that you could rekindle your faith life,  
or find more energy in life, or help someone else do the same.

Please fold that paper, put it in the black basket in your pew, and then the person on the aisle will bring those baskets forward as an offering.  
These responses will be both read by the pastoral staff and prayed over.

Thank you for all of the ways you share your time, life, and finances on behalf of the mission of this church family. Please feel free to financially support us by sharing your gifts in the baskets up front.

## Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.  
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

## \*Singing Our Faith Together

No.618 “Spirit of God, Who Dwells Within My Heart”  
Verses 1, 3, and 5  
“... I see the cross, there teach my heart to cling...”

# We Depart in Joy

## \*Benediction

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold on to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak, and help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.  
Amen.

"Trying to do the Lord's work in your own strength is the most confusing, exhausting, and tedious of all work. But when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, then the ministry of Jesus just flows out of you."

—Corrie Ten Boom

“I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

—Philippians 4:13