

SN 312 a

FIRST UNITED CHURCH
320 East Hastings Street
Vancouver, B. C. V6A 1P4
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 1980

Ministers:
Rev. J. J. Cashore
Rev. M. J. V. Shaver
10:30 A.M.

Morning Worship

The Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

THE COMMUNITY OF FAITH GATHERS

Silent Meditation: We remember. There are those men, women, children who responded to the cries for help, who separated themselves from loved ones for many years, who gave their life, who returned wounded and hurt. We remember that dedication as we remember the devastation.

This is also a time to remember that Friday many years ago when a young man carried his cross to the hilltop because he loved so deeply. We also remember that the stone was rolled away.

We remember and acknowledge that through all the trouble, the violence, the despair, that God is With Us. In our sorrow and in our joy God lives. We are challenged by that love and hope to continue to care for God's creation.

Organ Preludes: "Offertoire"

"Fugue"
C. Franck
G. Frescobaldi

Call to Worship (standing)

Leader: Come, we who have been baptized in the name of the Prince of Peace; come we who have been born into this age of violence and struggle. Come, let us worship the God who calls us to be makers of peace.

Community: May this God who has called us also help us. We are easily confused and frightened by the world that wars around us. Let us open ourselves to God so that God may speak to us.

Leader: Let us who are the church in these days remember the purpose for which God has called us. Let us repeat together the scripture Jesus used to describe his ministry, remembering that we are his followers.

All: The Spirit of the Lord is upon me

God has chosen me and sent me

To bring good news to the poor

Organists:
A.M. Mr. Peter Janson
P.M. Mrs. Eleanor Bush

Evening Broadcast
(Heard over CKWX at 8:00 P.M.)
7:00 P.M.

Organ Prelude
Call to Worship
Hymn No. 137 (643) "Through All the Changing Scenes of Life"
Invocation
Programme Identification
Ministry of Music
Scripture Lessons Zephaniah 1: 14 - 16
Luke 19: 1 - 10
Ministry of Music
Prayer and Lord's Prayer (sung)
Ministry of Music
Sermon THE ENEMIES OF GOD
Rev. Jack Shaver
Hymn No. 442 (96) "My Song is Love Unknown" Wesley
-- off the air --

Offering: Prayer, Offertory, Doxology

Announcements

Hymn No. 130 (651) "God is Our Refuge" Winchester Old 405

Benediction

Organ Postlude

We welcome all who are worshipping with us today and invite you to an informal coffee hour following both services.

Next Sunday

10:30 A.M. Ms. Bonny Smith

7:00 P.M. Rev. Ray Tingley

SUNDAY NOV. 9, 1980 Broadcast

I don't know how to find out whether the matching of our readings for this 24th Sunday after Pentecost was accidental or not. I am inclined to think they were chosen.

Although the Gospel lesson follows a sequence of LUTHER verses Sunday by Sunday, the lesson from Hebrew Scriptures is an isolated lesson from one of the shorter prophetic Books and is in no sequence at all.

But whatever brought it about.

It is how an interesting match

between the lesson from Hebrew Scriptures and the Gospel lesson.

The Zephaniah reading sounds like a conventional doom saying sermon in the prophetic tradition of Israel.

Nothing very original:

Very little specific

} perhaps - "C

we could appreciate Hebrew - and maybe it was good writing.

We come upon Original

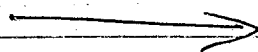
↳ Specific

elsewhere in scripture

Central enough lesson

TRUE

IMPORTANT



Because of the essential nature of the universe
 Because of the nature of God

certain kinds of social life

bring an inevitable kind of consequence

People were in the habit of looking forward

to the Day of the LORD

the Day their Father God would visit them

Day of the Lord

was a day of deliverance

WRATHFUL DAY

RUIN

DESTRUCTION

Not exactly a popular lesson.

Matched with this:

Story of Zacchaeus - Next to the Good Samaritan - Best known story found in the Gospels.

Tinie, despised, cheat

getting rich by collecting taxes

for an occupying power

despised by just about everybody

Jesus invites himself to his home

at the time - it wasn't exactly a popular lesson either: —

Jesus got classified as "ONE OF THEM"

ONE OF THE DESPISED ONES

THE REJECTED ONES

GOD IS THE DESTROYER OF EVIL

GOD IS THE COMPANION OF SINNERS

God is the enemy of sinners

God is the friend of sinners

Take your Pick!

Whether the matching of these two readings
was accidental,
or intentional.

THE MATCHING OF THE TWO NOTIONS
IS CLEARLY INTENTIONAL
IN THE BIBLE

MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE / God is the Enemy of Sinners
God is the Friend of Sinners

BOTH ARE TRUE

SWEAP & BITE of the BIBLICAL MESSAGE

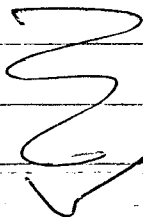
WE DISTORT, WATER DOWN, CORRUPT
The Biblical Message

When we take our pick,

When we propose that out of two are two:

simple either God rewards good — powerfully and
or

That = wretched stuff
That is an old fashioned idea replaced by the idea
that God's kindness are love.



Nothing about the Bible makes God seem
to be a softer
whatever holds the stars in their courses
is not much,

- evil is no little thing

- when human behaving confounds the
internal order of the universe the
consequences are devastating.

The fruits of injustice are chaos

devastation &
Ruin

The Bible does not underplay any of that when
it says God lovingly punishes.

That is a costly thing to lovingly punish
Jesus paid a price.

~~Bear Sin~~

SIN BEARING → COSTLY POWERFUL
THING.

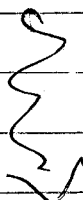
It also packs an enormous whollop

A more dramatic whollop than a WRATH
SERMON

BRINGS ABOUT REPENTANCE

Now there is a powerful act

WIPE OUT SINNERS - BRING SINNERS
TO REPENTANCE



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Can you imagine anything of greater
consequence.

than a remedy for sin

God ~~not~~ loves sin, God calls sinners friends
Evil is taken seriously - sinners not abandoned

~ While we are yet sinners
~ God recommends us to himself.