



From the Pastor's Desk

The Rev. Dr. Helen Hutchison

March 25, 2020

Matthew 6:25-33

'Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, "What will we eat?" or "What will we drink?" or "What will we wear?" For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.'

My preaching professor made us preach from Biblical passages that were not our favorites- or even ones we had a hard time figuring out. He said it was our opportunity to see what God-hard things God might be saying to us. The passage above is one that is hard for me. Jesus says "do not worry!" and I want to say "Yeah, right! Look at what is going on. Think about the people who have a loved one in the hospital they cannot visit. Or about those hospital workers who do not have protective masks to make sure they are safe, but still treat the patients anyway. Or...." You fill in your question about not worrying today. And Jesus simply says back, "How does your worrying help? Look around and see where God is, strive for righteousness and trust in God's love for you." So, with my preaching professor in mind, I have placed Jesus response on my refrigerator. I still worry, but every time I look at that, I take a breath and know that we will be ok. "Look around and see where God is, strive for righteousness and trust in God's love for you."

Congregational Prayers:

- Zephyr Point Presbyterian Retreat Center during our changing times
 - Those who are out of work
 - Those in assisted living and nursing homes who cannot see family
 - Thanksgiving for the work of: Hospital staff, Grocery Stores, Truckers - may they stay healthy
 - Thanksgiving for church members who have safely returned home from Trips: Dick and Jane Cates, Bob and Pat Hammond, Rick and Ann McElreath, Doug and Sharon Usedom, Molly Willoughby
 - St John's Church and Staff
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Forward to a
Friend!



See you in our next newsletter...