

Messiah Lutheran Church

www.wefoundmessiah.org

Email messiahluth500@bellsouth.net

500 Baytree Road

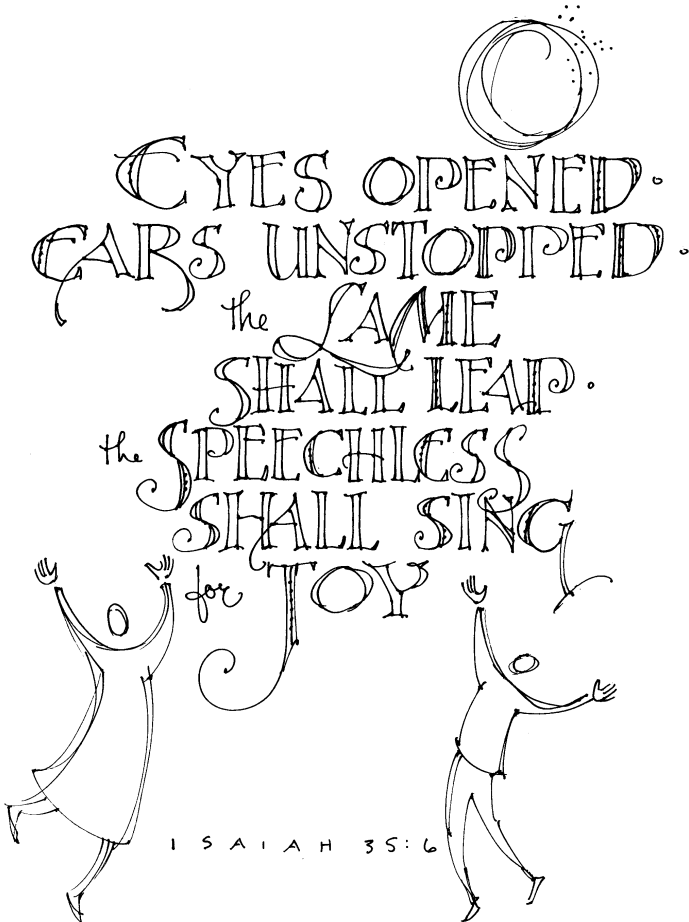
Valdosta, Georgia 31602

Pr. Richard Pieplow, MDiv.

Ministers: Every Member

Church Office: 244-0143

Pastor's Home: 244-2831



September 06, 2009
Proclaiming GRACE

God's Riches At Christ's Expense
Est. January 3, 1956

INTRODUCTION

Welcome Friends in Christ! If you are a guest with us today, please let us know how we may serve you. Everyone who brings her or his need to Jesus is received with equal honor as a child and heir.

+ Please stand as you are able for these parts of the service

PRESERVICE MUSIC AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

RINGING OF THE BELLS

+ **AN ACT CONFESSION/RECONCILIATION**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us approach the throne of grace with boldness, confessing our sin and trusting in God's mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of truth,

ALL we have all sinned and fallen short of your glory.

We have turned away from you.

We have not kept your commandments.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We have neglected the poor,

and we have not welcomed all people in your name.

You know the fullness of our sin.

Forgive us, and turn us again to you,

so that we may receive the fullness of your mercy. Amen.

P Our great high priest, Jesus Christ, sacrificed himself for us and for our sins. In Christ, you are freed from your sins and given a place in God's household forever.

C Amen.

(All may greet one another saying: Peace be with you.)

+ **PSALMODY AND CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 89**

L I have found David my servant;
with my holy oil have I anointed him.

C **²¹My hand will hold him fast
and my arm will make him strong.**

L ²⁴My faithfulness and steadfast love are with him,
and he shall be victorious through my name.

C **²⁵I will set his hand on the sea,
and his right hand on the rivers.**

L ²⁶He will say to me, 'You are my father,
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

C **²⁷I will make him my firstborn
and higher than the kings of the earth.**

L ²⁸I will keep my love for him forever,
and my covenant will stand firm for him.

C **²⁹I will establish his line forever
and his throne as the days of heaven.**

L ³⁴I will not break my covenant,
nor change what has gone out of my lips.

C **³⁵Once for all I have sworn by my holiness:
I will not lie to David.**

L ³⁶His line shall endure forever
and his throne as the sun before me;

C **³⁷it shall stand fast forevermore like the moon,
the abiding witness in the sky."**

ALL **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

+ **HYMN OF PRAISE**

LBW, p. 81

P/L This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
And honor and blessing and glory are His.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
Be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

+ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

L May we pray.

L Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life.

C **Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.**

SELECTED READING FROM FIRST SAMUEL 30

²¹ Then David came to the two hundred men who had been too exhausted to follow him and who were left behind at the Besor Ravine. They came out to meet David and the people with him. As David and his men approached, he greeted them. ²² But all the evil men and troublemakers among David's followers said, "Because they did not go out with us, we will not share with them the plunder we recovered. However, each man may take his wife and children and go." ²³ David replied, "No, my brothers, you must not do that with what the LORD has given us. He has protected us and handed over to us the forces that came against us. ²⁴ Who will listen to what you say? The share of the man who stayed with the supplies is to be the same as that of him who went down to the

battle. All will share alike." ²⁵ David made this a statute and ordinance for Israel from that day to this.

L The Word of the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

CHOIR "Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil"

+ **A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK 7**

Response

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

In Mark's gospel, encounters with women usually signify turning points in Jesus' ministry. Here, a conversation with a Syrophenician woman marks the beginning of his mission to the Gentiles.

[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, "Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁸But she answered him, "Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs." ²⁹Then he said to her, "For saying that, you may go—he demon has left your daughter." ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, "He has done

everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak."

P The Gospel of the Lord. **C Praise to You, O Christ.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE *"Leggo's Experiment"*

HYMN OF SPIRITUAL WARFARE

BOB # 408

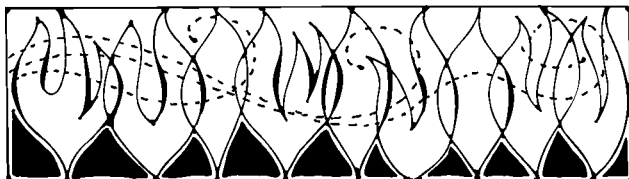
God, whose giving knows no ending, From your rich and end-less store:
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, Costly cross, grave's shattered door,
Gifted by you, we turn to you, Offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever, Gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
All at peace in health and freedom, Races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, Lest we strive for self alone;
Born with talents, make us servants Fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, Gain through pow'rs your grace conferred;
Ours to use for home and kindred, And to spread the Gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, As we heed Christ's age-less call,
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming, Serving you by loving all.

MESSAGE "GROWING HEARTS AFTER GOD'S OWN HEART,
Part 8: A Generous Heart"

"The Lord has sought out a man after His own heart" (1 Samuel 13: 14). From the life of King David, we learn how God grows generous hearts after His own heart.



Ephphatha! be Opened! Sunday

+ APOSTLES' CREED

L Renouncing all the forces of evil, the devil and all his empty promises, let us confess the faith of the Church, the faith in which we baptize:

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

+ PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Response:

L Hear us, O God, **C Your mercy is great.**

THE OFFERING IS GATHERED AS THE LORD'S TABLE IS PREPARED

*In this simple gesture of thanksgiving, we acknowledge God as the
Giver and look forward in joyful anticipation to receiving the great gift*

of his Son in bread broken and cup shared.

MUSICAL OFFERING

+ OFFERING PRAYER

L God of majesty, in your might you have created all things,
and you entrust to our care what you have made.

**C Receive our offerings, and make them a sign of our
dedication to provide for the needs of all people and
creatures, in the name of the one who sustains all things by
his word, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

+ SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks for his glory.

C We give thanks, we rejoice in his presence.

P I will go to your altar and praise you, O God, my exceeding
joy, singing a song of thanksgiving and telling of your
wondrous deeds. Now with all the faithful who ever
were, are, and will be, with all creation in all time, with joy
we sing: "*Holy, Holy, Holy*" *Tune WOV 801*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

+ WORDS OF OUR LORD

+ LORD'S PRAYER

+ **THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Receive the Lord and live.

C **Amen.**

THE DISTRIBUTION

What is this Bread? What is this Wine? At Messiah Lutheran Church, the Holy Supper of our Lord is celebrated in the confession and glad confidence that we receive "the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and to drink." Our Lord welcomes to His table those who have faith in these words, "given for you" and "shed for you...for the forgiveness of sin." Please extend hand out to receive the bread. Wine is offered from the Chalice or from individual cups. Grape juice (center ring, lighter color) is offered for those who choose not to receive wine. After the Pastor follows with the Chalice, place your empty cup in the rack on the communion rail. Children not yet prepared for the Sacrament may come forward for a blessing "that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, they may lead godly lives until the day of Jesus Christ."

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

Join in singing the following selections from various resources:

LBW # 406

Take my life, that I may be Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days; Let them flow in cease-less praise.

Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of thy love;
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice and let me sing Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from thee.

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I with-hold;
Take my intellect, and use Ev'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

Take my will and make it thine; It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour At thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be Ever only, all for thee.

LSB # 785

We praise You, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before You, we kneel and adore You;
We bless Your holy name, glad praises we sing.

We worship You, God of our fathers, we bless You;
Through trial and tempest our guide You have been.
When perils o'ertake us, You will not forsake us,
And with Your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
And gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With You, Lord, beside us, Your strong arm will guide us.
To You, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

+ **RESPONSE AFTER COMMUNION**

L Loving God, in this meal you sustain the weary and heal the broken. May the gift of your word made flesh, the body and blood of Christ, inspire our tongues to praise you and proclaim to the entire world the Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

+ **BLESSING**

P The life-giving God, who sets us free in Christ, encourage you with the presence of the Holy Spirit and + bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

+ SENDING SONG

WOV # 760

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation, thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping,
Future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,
Most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

+ DISMISS

L Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C Thanks be to God.



MESSIAH MESSENGER

Messiah Lutheran Church, 500 Baytree Road, Valdosta, GA.

Announcements and news for the week of Sept 06 - Sept 13, 2009

EVENTS THIS WEEK

TODAY	Sunday Classes	9:15	am
	14 th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30	am
TUESDAY	LWML	7:00	pm
WEDNESDAY	Choir Practice	7:30	pm
THURSDAY	Thursday Craft & Lunch Group	9:00	am
	Baytree AA Group	7:00	pm
SATURDAY	Baytree AA Group	7:00	pm
NEXT SUNDAY	Sunday Classes	9:15	am
	15 th Sunday after Pentecost	10:30	am
	Dedication of the Pinetree House		
	SS Rally Day BarBQ Luncheon		

WE ARE DEVOTED TO OFFERING ... "God's Love, Our Response"

2009 Budget Goal	\$ 134,486.00
Goal per week	\$ 2,586.00
2009 Goal to Date	\$ 90,519.00
Offerings for 2009 Budget – as of 08/30	\$ 91,077.00
Offering on 08/30	\$ 1,622.00
Weekly average for 35 week	\$ 2,602.00
Non-designated Memorial for Andy Charos	\$ 50.00
Designated Offerings:	
Building Fund	\$ 0.00
Pine Tree House Debt Reduction Fund	\$ 100.00

"Let your light shine before others that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven" Matthew 5: 16

Pinetree House Property

Non-designated contributions for the Pinetree House are used toward monthly payment of interest and principle. Thank you for your gifts.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS are a gift and a warm reminder of God’s love to bloom where you are planted by Cherylene and Bo Miller in honor of their anniversary on Sept. 2.

Thanks for the gift of flowers to enhance our worship, and to glorify the Lord our God. To order flowers, please use the registry located on the stand in the hallway toward the fellowship hall.

WE ARE DEVOTED TO PRAYER Acts 2: 42

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS Pat Bryant, Rob Coester (9/10). Missed *on this list?* Please leave a note in the church office with name and birth date.

ARMED FORCES AND THEIR FAMILIES The deployed from MAFB (several squadrons) Cheston Morgan, Afghanistan, Verla George’s grandson in the Army. Missildine, (Navy, New Jersey), Brian Sparks (Navy, Connecticut), Kevin Sparks (AF, Florida)

NURSING HOME/ASSISTED LIVING PATIENTS/SHUT-INS

Mike Laigoia, Fellowship Home
 Charles Kluball, Fellowship Home
 Vi & Clarence Heidemann, homebound
 Mildred Evans undergoing rehab at home
 Margaret Rupp convalescing after gall bladder surgery

NEW JOYS & ON-GOING CONCERNS:

Mary Kinchen, recovering from ear surgery Sept. 4th at Tift Regional
 Wendy Tweeter requests prayer for her friend Jamie whose 6 month old baby had surgery for a brain tumor in Gainesville on Wed. Her husband, Aaron, just returned from Afghanistan late Tuesday night.
 Also, a prayer of Thanksgiving that Wendy’s husband, Tim, returned from Afghanistan late Tuesday night.

LIST OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Name	Concern/joy	Requested by	Relationship
June Orrison	cancer	Gloria Cook	cousin
Belinda Judy	brain tumor	Dorothy Hauge	friend
Virginia Anderson	Alzheimer’s	Betty Zipperer	sister
Roy McDanielle	lung disease	Duane Hauge	friend
Ricky Harrell	needs kidney transplant	Erin Jansen	uncle
Elizabeth Rabon	cancer	Erin Jansen	grandmother
Linda Brightwell	cancer	Tina Wright	friend/co-worker
Diane McNamara	breast cancer	Pat Simpson	niece
Maebeth Gerisch	nursing home care	Ed Gerisch	wife
Melanie McDonald	brain seizures	Mary Kinchen	cousin
Vickie Johnson	health issues	Dana Black	mother
Bobby Joe Johnson	health issues	Dana Black	step-father
Alyssia Ventura	MS	Silke/PatrickDeeley	daughter
Jake Tillman’s grandson (12)	leukemia	Don Sullins	friend
John Harris	multiple health concerns	Jan Bristow	friend
Christopher Stone	pt recovery	Pat Simpson	grandson
Sally Carson	tests	Jack/Joanne Hostetler	daughter
Ella Derr		John Mitchell	friend
Mike Ellis	diagnosed with leukemia	Bo Miller	friend
Joan Adams	post surgery complications	Ellen /John Mitchell	friend
Steven Bridges	leukemia	Lisa Tinney/Dana Black	friend

Edgar Vizcarondo	cancer	Rae Hubbard	friend
Jeff Griffin	colon cancer	Don Sullins	friend
Robert	health issues	Duane Hauge	brother
Gloria DeMillo	blood clot in lung	Dorothy Hauge	friend
Billy Langdale	circulation problems	Pernell Jones	neighbor
Ray Moorman	Augusta Burn Center	Bob Hubbard	friend
Ira & Louise Whatley	cancer	Nancy Stewart	parents of a friend
David	cancer in throat	Nancy Stewart	son
Marilyn	kidney disease	Linda/Gary Klement	friend
Paul Thiner	VA hospital	Jolleen Christians	father
Lindsey Klement	health issue with pregnancy	Linda/Gary Klement	daughter-in-law

WE ARE DEVOTED TO WORSHIP Acts 2: 42

Organ/Piano	Marjorie Fix
Choir Director	Marjorie Fix
Worship Assistant	John Mitchell
Reader/Communion Assistants	Corey Christians, John Mitchell
Children's Message	Cindy Sweeney & others
Acolyte	Chandler Christians
Greeters	Betty Zipperer, Fran Sparks
Nursery	Deanese Willis
Ushers	Dennis & Barbara Kluball
Altar preparation/Chancel care	Cindy Sweeney, Joe Mitchell
Sound tech	Cyndy Pieplow
Custodians	Volunteer
Altar linen	Bob & Valerie Behnke
Flower service	Fran Sparks
Flower beds	Helen Whitten
Grass cutting	Whitten family
Floor Maintenance Smith's Janitorials	Fred Daniels 245-0483
Church Council.....	Laverne Smith 229 387-6060
Kay Vincent, president	Sandy Adams, v- pres/secretary
Gary Klement, co- financial secretary	Lisa Tinney, co-financial secretary
Kathy Lane, treasurer	Jeff Moxley, stewardship
Cindy Mitchell, Christian E	Bo Miller, property
Jolleen Christians, evangelism	John Mitchell, worship
	Dana Black, youth

WE ARE DEVOTED TO SERVICE

	<u>Sept 13</u>	<u>Sept 20</u>	<u>Sept 27</u>
Reader:	K Wright	H Hodge	C Pieplow
Com Assist:	S Wright	G Vincent	J Sparks
Acolyte:	M Gannon	A Sweeney	N Meyer
Chancel:	J Jansen	L Grall	L Tinney
Nursery:	J Hostetter	V Behnke	M Foutz

Greeters:	D Rockey D Rockey	G Klement V Benavides	C Sweeney A Sweeney
Ushers:	D Rockey J Willis B Boles K Boles	L Tinney G Klement G Vincent L Vincent	J Hostetler J Hostetler R Behnke V Behnke

Greeters: It is best for choir members to greet only during the summer when they don't need to rehearse before the service. **We need smiling faces** to fill in for them the rest of the year. Please contact Cyndy Pieplow if you are willing.

GRACE & PEACE FROM PASTOR RICHARD

Rally Day “picnic on the grounds” Sunday, Sept 13. Ed Sheeley will BBQ chicken as the main entrée, and others are asks to bring veggies, salads, desserts to go with. The Pinetree House will be dedicated for church use on that Sunday as part of our worship. Be encouraged! Remember if you are able through God’s blessing to give a sacrificial gift to apply to the loan (\$81,230), please “MEMO” your gift “Pinetree House.” Would you consider making an intentional gift each month over the next 3 years? + + + A big “thank you” to Lisa Vincent and Pat Simpson who cleaned and updated the children’s activity bags available in the narthex (entryway). + + + Congratulations to John Mitchell upon his retirement on Wednesday, Sept. 2.

LWML NEWS

LWML will begin meeting again on Tuesday, Sept. 8 @ 7pm. I would like to thank everyone who participated in the craft nights this summer. A lot of fun and great fellowship was enjoyed by all. We will continue with craft nights Sept. 22 and Oct. 20 to add to bazaar goodies. Mark your calendars for Sept. 26, Yard Sale for Second Harvest & Kids Cafe...see Helen Whitten for more info. Thanks for all you support....God bless our craft leaders!!!! Your sister in Christ...Sandy

SMALL GROUP INTEREST FORM: Forms are available on the table in the church entryway. We will continue to take your input regarding your needs and interests. Small groups are a place to experience a more intimate community and a deeper spirituality which strengthens individuals and the Christian community as a whole. Small group components include: Bible reflection, mutual support through intentional community building, prayer, and ministry beyond itself. Small Groups: 1) listen to God 2)are caring places 3)relate to the church 4) integrate new members into the church. If you have any questions, please contact Jolleen Christians 588-4270.

VALDOSTA CHORAL GUILD

As we begin the 2009-10 season we take this opportunity to invite those of you who are interested in membership in the Guild to join us at our first rehearsal at 7:30, Monday, September 14, in the choir rehearsal room of First Baptist Church. Expense other than concert clothing costs is \$20 per concert membership fee. The guild is blessed with the direction Dr. Lynn Corbin. Have questions, contact membership chairperson, Dick Uhler 292-3770. Also, Kay Vincent, Robert and Rae Hubbard who sing with the guild can probably assist you too.

Starving for Crumbs

It's an uncomfortable story. Few snapshots of Jesus portray our divine Savior being so human. Stuck in the midst of stories of miracles and healing, another account of Jesus' healing work begins with Jesus casting an insult.

In the gospel of Matthew she is known as the Canaanite woman. In Mark she is called the Syrophenician woman. Either heritage puts her in a scandalous position. As a Syrophenician she is a Gentile. As a Canaanite she is a Jew—but of ambiguous lineage and considered to be racially impure. Her people are considered "mongrels."

She approaches Jesus to ask that he cast a demon out of her daughter. Jesus' response? He tells her that to help her kind would be like feeding the dogs before feeding the children. Jesus' words here cannot be interpreted in a nice way. Jesus denies this woman's request and dismisses her based on her race and class. He is rude.

But she doesn't let him get away with it! She won't let her daughter's plight be denied. No matter who she is, no matter where she comes from, this woman needs Jesus, too.

So Jesus heals the daughter and from that action we begin to wonder if Jesus has learned something important about his ministry, too. Does this moment make him realize that his initial vision of his ministry is too small? And if Jesus has reached this insight, how much more do we need a broader vision of ministry? Whom do we exclude? To whom does the Spirit send us?

Jesus might have thought he came to reform the religion of his land. But with this encounter, it becomes obvious that there is an entire world starving for the crumbs falling from the children's table. May we receive these crumbs of life falling from Jesus' table, and become the bread of good news for others.

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