

# Westlawn UMC

122 S. SAN MANUEL SAN ANTONIO TX 78237

DEL 2 AL 22 DE ENERO 2022

I T ' S O N L Y

# MONEY

F I N D I N G   F I N A N C I A L   F R E E D O M

*What does it mean to invest in the things  
that have real meaning and purpose?  
How can we as Christians participate in the  
work of God to bring life and love to the peo-  
ple around us?*

¿Qué significa invertir en las cosas que  
tienen un real significado y un propósito?  
¿Cómo podemos nosotros, como cristianos,  
participar en la obra de Dios para traer vida y  
amor a las personas que nos rodean?

# Westlawn

*United Methodist Church*

JANUARY 2022  
122 S. SAN MANUEL SAN ANTONIO TX 78237  
PASTORA LILIANA PADILLA 325-315-8735

## SERVICIO DE ALABANZA ENERO 2, 2022

**¡Mirad cuán bueno y cuán delicioso es  
Habitar los hermanos juntos en armonía! Sal 133:1**

One: Sing aloud with gladness:  
**Many: God is gathering the people!**  
One: From the farthest parts of the earth we come:  
**Many: All who struggle; all who labor with new life!**  
One: Those who are weeping, God will console;  
**Many: Those who get lost find a clear path home.**  
One: Let us worship the God who gathers us!

Uno: Canta en voz alta con alegría:  
**Muchos: ¡Dios está reuniendo al pueblo!** Uno: De los lugares más lejanos de la tierra venimos:  
**Muchos: Todos los que luchan; todos los que trabajan con nueva vida!**  
Uno: A los que lloran, Dios consolará; **Muchos: Aquellos que se pierden encuentran un camino claro a casa.**  
Uno: ¡Adoremos al Dios que nos reúne!

## Church Events

**2 DE ENERO DE 2022 (Virtual 10:30 am Facebook)**

Claves para la salud financiera y la alegría Invertir de por vida

**9 DE ENERO DEL 2022 (Virtual 10:30 am Facebook)**

Invertir para una vida significativa y gozosa Invertir para la vida: cristianismo y riqueza

**16 DE ENERO DE 2022 (Virtual 10:30 am Facebook)**

El cuaderno de un pastor: el legado que dejamos

## OFRECEMOS NUESTROS DONES

"Cada uno de como propuso en su corazon, no con tristeza o por necesidad porque Dios ama al dador alegre" 2 Corintios 9:7

Tu puedes enviar tu ofrenda a traves de la pagina de la Iglesia:

[www.myiglesiawestlawn.org](http://www.myiglesiawestlawn.org)

O enviarlo a Rene de La Cruz, 9446 Hindi Dr. San Antonio TX 78224

Enero 17.

Inicio de Clases de ingles en Divine Grace 9:00-12:00 lunes y miercoles

**21 DIAS DE AYUNO Y**

**ORACION**

**FEBRERO 1-21 6:30 PM**

# Versos Bíblicos!

Proverbios 21: 5a, 21:20, 22: 7, Mateo 6:21 y Lucas 12:15

## Proverbios 21:5

Los pensamientos del diligente ciertamente tienden a la abundancia; Mas todo el que se apresura alocadamente, de cierto va a la pobreza.

<sup>20</sup> Tesoro precioso y aceite hay en la casa del sabio; Mas el hombre insensato todo lo disipa.

## Proverbios 22:7

El rico se enseñorea de los pobres, Y el que toma prestado es siervo del que presta.

## Mateo 6:21

Porque donde esté vuestro tesoro, allí estará también vuestro corazón.

## Lucas 12:15

<sup>15</sup> Y les dijo: Mirad, y guardaos de toda avaricia; porque la vida del hombre no consiste en la abundancia de los bienes que posee.

Keys to Financial Health  
and Joy Investing for Life

Proverbs 21:5a, 21:20, 22:7,  
Matthew 6:21 and Luke  
12:15

The plans of the diligent lead surely to abundance. Precious treasure remains in the house of the wise, but the fool devours it. The rich rule over the poor, and the borrower is the slave of the lender.

[Then Jesus taught them saying,] Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. [And Jesus said,] “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.”

# Affirmation

I Believe

(inspired by John 1:1-5)

Jesus Christ, brother of Light,  
I believe.

I believe  
that in the beginning was the Promise  
and the Promise was with God  
and the Promise was God.

I believe  
in the infinite, nurturing creativity of God,  
in the incarnate, crucified humility of God,  
in the intimate, inspiring liberality of God.  
Jesus Christ, brother of Light,  
I believe.

## AFIRMACIÓN

Yo creo

(inspirado en Juan 1: 1-5)

Jesucristo, hermano de la Luz,  
Yo creo.

Yo creo que al principio fue la promesa  
y la promesa estaba con Dios y la  
promesa era Dios.

Yo creo

En la creatividad infinita y nutritiva de  
Dios,

En la humildad encarnada y crucificada  
de Dios,

En la generosidad íntima e inspiradora  
de Dios.

Jesucristo, hermano de la Luz,  
Yo creo.

# Llama a la pastora!

Sera un honor poderle escuchar y orar  
por usted.

Tambien ayudarle sera un placer. Si  
necesitas comida de emergencia,  
pampers o usar la lavanderia me puedes  
llamar  
325-315-8735

# SUNDAY CLASS

January 2 ADULTOS

Lesson 5 In Awe of God's Creation

## Focal Passage: Psalm 19:1-6 / Salmo 19:1-6

Purpose Statement: To affirm God as the Creator and Sustainer of everything Psalm 19:1-6 1Heaven is declaring God's glory; the sky is proclaiming his handiwork. 2One day gushes the news to the next, and one night informs another what needs to be known. 3Of course, there's no speech, no words—their voices can't be heard— 4—but their sound extends throughout the world; their words reach the ends of the earth. God has made a tent in heaven for the sun. 5The sun is like a groom coming out of his honeymoon suite; like a warrior, it thrills at running its course. 6It rises in one end of the sky; its circuit is complete at the other. Nothing escapes its heat. **Key Verse: "Heaven is declaring God's glory; the sky is proclaiming his handiwork" (Psalm 19:1).**

The psalmist, of course, lived long before electric lights and other distractions that pollute and obscure the sky. People in those days were far more familiar with the moon and stars than most of us today. That night, looking at the gorgeous array of stars shining over the Guadalupe Mountains of southeastern New Mexico, I thought of Psalm 19:1: "Heaven is declaring God's glory: the sky is proclaiming his handiwork." Of course, people in Old Testament times were even more impressed with the closest star. Many ancient cultures worshiped the sun, with archaeological evidence of this going back as early as the Neolithic age. The Egyptians famously worshiped Ra, their sun god. Early Mesopotamians worshiped Utu, who later became known as Shamash, as their sun god. Early Hinduism had Surya, their sun god. In Aztec religion, extensive human sacrifice was demanded by the sun gods Huitzilopochtli and Tezcatlipoca. The Old Testament includes numerous admonitions against worshiping the sun and other objects of the creation rather than the Creator. For example, Deuteronomy 4:19 warns, "Don't look to the skies, to the sun or the moon or the stars, all the heavenly bodies, and be led astray, worshipping and serving them." Job defended his faithfulness by insisting, "If I've looked at the sun when it shone, the moon, splendid as it moved; and my mind has been secretly enticed, and threw a kiss with my hand, that also is a punishable offense, because I would then be disloyal to God above" (Job 31:26-28). The psalmist was well aware of those warnings. The author of Psalm 19 didn't worship the sun; he worshiped the One who created the sun. After acknowledging how beautifully God's creation points to its Creator, he said, "Honoring the LORD is correct, lasting forever. The LORD's judgments are true. All of these are righteous! . . . No doubt about it: your servant is enlightened by them; there is great reward in keeping them" (Psalm 19:9, 11). He closed with words many of us probably know by heart: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing to you, LORD, my rock and my redeemer" (verse 14). The lessons in this unit encourage us to nurture and develop the spiritual practice of singing or meditating on hymns and songs of praise. In addition to the psalms mentioned in this lesson, you may want to explore some of the other psalms of praise and thanksgiving, such as 23, 24, 34, 46, 93, 96–100, 103, 114, 115, 118, 145, 114, 115, 118, 131, 136, 139, and 150. Online searches can provide resources and helps in singing the psalms. You might enjoy singing some of them to already familiar tunes or to tunes you compose. If you weren't familiar with the hymn "Never Alone," you can search for it online and listen to it. Dear God, we see your majesty, wonder, beauty, and power in all of creation. Help us feel your presence when we look carefully at the world around us, and help us proclaim your glory by the lives we live; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

El salmista, por supuesto, vivió mucho antes que las luces eléctricas y otras distracciones que contaminan y oscurecen el cielo. La gente en esos días estaba mucho más familiarizada con la luna y las estrellas que la mayoría de nosotros hoy. Esa noche, mirando la hermosa variedad de estrellas que brillaban sobre las montañas de Guadalupe en el sureste de Nuevo México, pensé en el Salmo 19: 1: "El cielo está declarando la gloria de Dios: el cielo está proclamando la obra de sus manos". Por supuesto, la gente en la época del Antiguo Testamento estaba aún más impresionada con la estrella más cercana. Muchas culturas antiguas adoraban al sol, y la evidencia arqueológica de esto se remonta al Neolítico. Los egipcios adoraban a Ra, su dios sol. Los primeros mesopotámicos adoraban a Utu, quien más tarde se conoció como Shamash, como su dios sol. El hinduismo temprano tenía a Surya, su dios sol. En la religión azteca, los dioses del sol Huitzilopochtli y Tezcatlipoca exigían grandes sacrificios humanos. El Antiguo Testamento incluye numerosas advertencias en contra de adorar al sol y otros objetos de la creación en lugar del Creador. Por ejemplo, Deuteronomio 4:19 advierte: "No mires a los cielos, ni al sol, ni a la luna, ni a las estrellas, todos los cuerpos celestes, y te dejes desviar, adorándolos y sirviéndolos". Job defendió su fidelidad insistiendo: "Si he mirado el sol cuando brillaba, la luna, espléndida mientras se movía; y mi mente fue seducida en secreto, y me arrojó un beso en la mano, que también es ofensa punible, porque entonces sería desleal al Dios de arriba" (Job 31: 26-28). El salmista conocía bien esas advertencias. El autor del Salmo 19 no adoró al sol; adoró a Aquel que creó el sol. Después de reconocer cuán bellamente apunta la creación de Dios a su Creador, dijo: "Honrar al SEÑOR es correcto, duradero para siempre. Los juicios del SEÑOR son verdaderos. ¡Todos estos son justos! . . . Sin lugar a dudas: tu sirviente es iluminado por ellos; gran recompensa es guardarlo" (Salmo 19: 9, 11). Concluyó con palabras que muchos de nosotros probablemente sepamos de memoria: "Que las palabras de mi boca y las meditaciones de mi corazón te sean agradables, SEÑOR, roca mía y redentor mío" (versículo 14). Las lecciones de esta unidad nos animan a nutrir y desarrollar la práctica espiritual de cantar o meditar himnos y cánticos de alabanza. Además de los salmos mencionados en esta lección, es posible que desee explorar algunos de los otros salmos de alabanza y acción de gracias, como 23, 24, 34, 46, 93, 96–100, 103, 114, 115, 118, 145. , 114, 115, 118, 131, 136, 139 y 150. Las búsquedas en línea pueden proporcionar recursos y ayuda para cantar los salmos. Puede disfrutar cantando algunos de ellos con melodías que ya le son familiares o con melodías que componga. Si no estaba familiarizado con el himno "Never Alone", puede buscárselo en línea y escucharlo. **Querido Dios, vemos tu majestad, maravilla, belleza y poder en toda la creación. Ayúdanos a sentir tu presencia cuando miramos detenidamente el mundo que nos rodea, y ayúdanos a proclamar tu gloria con las vidas que vivimos; en el nombre de Jesús oramos. Amén.**

## **The Light of Home (YOUTH CLASS)**

**READ SCRIPTURE** This passage is full of profound symbolism as well as practical information on what we receive from being part of a community. As someone reads, invite the students to focus on the latter.

Read [John 1:\(1-9\), 10-18.](#)

### **DISCUSSION**

Take a moment to list the good things this passage says that people experience from being connected to who Jesus is and always has been.

Look at that list and ask, “Who has experienced one of these?” Tell that story. For example, “Has anyone recognized themselves as a child of God? How did that come about?”

What are the best things about being in our youth group and/or church?

When you have questions about faith, how can these things about our youth ministry and church help you?

How does having a community of faith help you through times when faith is hard?

Today’s passage says that Jesus came and lived among us. That is powerful and is something we should repeat. God in the flesh, Immanuel, came to live with us and have human experiences. We need to live as people of faith in our world, continuing to show an example of how Christ taught us to live. Big, and maybe odd question: Can we do that without being annoying or putting off others? What about living a life patterned after Jesus’ life seems interesting, welcoming, or intriguing to others? What about living that life may seem annoying, disconnected, or separate from the community around you?

**ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION: TELLING PEOPLE ABOUT HOME** There are all kinds of benefits to being part of a Christian community; some that we find here in John and others that we have talked about in the discussion to this point. Inviting people to be part of a church doesn’t have to be weird or forced. And before we ever invite people to be part of church, we should be talking about it as a natural part of our conversations. We should be sharing the good things we receive from this community, so that when the time seems right to invite someone to “come home,” they are already interested and have a sense that they will be welcomed – doubts, imperfections, and all.

For this activity, we want to imagine making an online ad (that you will not use.) The goal of the ad, again, is not to post it on social media, but to help focus and clarify the good things we want to share about our faith and our community. If we want to welcome others to join in faith life with us and do what we do, we’d better know why we do it in the first place!

To begin, invite students to choose one of the positive attributes found in John or in the discussion that was had afterward. Then tell them to think of an image that symbolizes community and the best of what your youth ministry is all about. Maybe it is of a table filled with food or people going on a walk together. Ask youth to be as creative as they can; use the rules of improv as ways to build upon one another’s’ ideas. If you have students who have smart phones, invite them to find actual images.

Once the image is set, ask students to come up with two sentences: one that describes what a person should expect to experience when he/she “comes home” to your church or youth ministry; for example, “A place where people love you no matter what” or “A family for everyone.” The other sentence should describe why your youth ministry and church create those experiences; for example, “Because we all deserve meaningful community;” or “Because God welcomes all, we welcome all;” or “We do things better when we’re together.” Once the students have those two things, ask them to write a three to five sentence paragraph that describes why your church creates the good things that it does and what youth will experience when they can attend and connect.

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JANUARY 2022  
122 S. SAN MANUEL SAN ANTONIO TX 78237  
PASTORA LILIANA PADILLA 325-315-8735

## SERVICIO DE ALABANZA ENERO 9, 2022

**¡Mirad cuán bueno y cuán delicioso es  
Habitar los hermanos juntos en armonía! Sal 133:1**

(based on Mark 1: 9-11, Luke 3:21-23)  
The Father's voice bears witness  
to the Son.  
**God has shown himself to us.**  
The Son bows his head beneath  
the waters of the Jordan.  
**God has shown himself to us.**  
Christ submits to John's baptism  
and frees us from slavery.  
**God has shown himself to us.**  
God's love is seen to the end of  
the world.  
**God has shown himself to us.**

(basado en Marcos 1: 9-11, Lucas 3: 21-23)  
La voz del Padre da testimonio del  
Hijo.  
**Dios se nos ha mostrado.**  
El Hijo inclina la cabeza bajo las  
aguas del Jordán.  
**Dios se nos ha mostrado.**  
Cristo se somete al bautismo de  
Juan y nos libera de la esclavitud.  
**Dios se nos ha mostrado.**  
El amor de Dios se ve hasta el fin  
del mundo.  
**Dios se nos ha mostrado.**

## OFRECEMOS NUESTROS DONES

"Cada uno de como propuso en su corazon, no con tristeza o por  
necesidad porque Dios ama al dador alegre" 2 Corintios 9:7  
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**21 DIAS DE AYUNO Y**

**ORACION**

**FEBRERO 1-21 6:30 PM**

# Versos Bíblicos!

Proverbios 13:22 Proverbios 3: 9-10 y 2 Corintios 9: 6-8, 10-11a, 13

El bueno dejará herederos a los hijos de sus hijos;  
Pero la riqueza del pecador está guardada para el justo.  
Honra a Jehová con tus bienes,  
Y con las primicias de todos tus frutos;  
<sup>10</sup> Y serán llenos tus graneros con abundancia,  
Y tus lagares rebosarán de mosto.  
Pero esto digo: El que siembra escasamente, también segará escasamente; y el que siembra generosamente, generosamente también segará.<sup>7</sup> Cada uno dé como propuso en su corazón: no con tristeza, ni por necesidad,

porque Dios ama al dador alegre.<sup>8</sup> Y poderoso es Dios para hacer que abunde en vosotros toda gracia, a fin de que, teniendo siempre en todas las cosas todo lo suficiente, abundéis para toda buena obra;  
<sup>10</sup> Y el que da semilla al que siembra, y pan al que come, proveerá y multiplicará vuestra sementera, y aumentará los frutos de vuestra justicia,<sup>11</sup> para que estéis enriquecidos en todo para toda liberalidad, la cual produce por medio de nosotros acción de gracias a Dios.

<sup>13</sup> pues por la experiencia de esta ministración glorifican a Dios por la obediencia que profesáis al evangelio de Cristo, y por la liberalidad de vuestra contribución para ellos y para todos;

**Investing for a Meaningful and Joyful Life Investing for Life: Christianity and Wealth**  
**Proverbs 13:22 (CEB), Proverbs 3:9-10 (CEB) and 2 Corinthians 9:6-8, 10-11a, 13 (NRSV)**

Good people leave their grandchildren an inheritance, but the wealth of sinners is stored up for the righteous. Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the first of all your crops. Then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will burst with wine. The one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work...He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity...Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others.

## PRAYER

O God of all creation,

You came into the world that we might know love and new life. Pour your Spirit on your church, that it may fulfill Christ's command to live the gospel everywhere; that the proclamation of the good news might be heard throughout the earth. Reassure us, that we are your beloved people. Defend us against all evil and temptation. Give us grace to bear faithful witness to you. Endue us with love, keep us constant in prayer, empower us for the service of love. Amen.

## Llama a la pastora!

**Sera un honor poderle escuchar y orar por usted.**

**Tambien ayudarle sera un placer. Si necesitas comida de emergencia, pampers o usar la lavanderia me puedes llamar  
325-315-8735**

## ORACIÓN

Oh Dios de toda la creación,  
Viniste al mundo para que conozcamos el amor y la vida nueva. Derrama tu Espíritu sobre tu iglesia, para que pueda cumplir el mandato de Cristo de vivir el evangelio en todas partes; para que la proclamación de las buenas nuevas se escuche en toda la tierra. Asegúranos que somos tu pueblo amado. Defiéndenos de todo mal y tentación. Danos la gracia de darte un testimonio fiel. Dónanos de amor, mantennos constantes en la oración, capacítanos para el servicio del amor. Amén.

# SUNDAY CLASS

January 9

## Lesson 6 Coming Into God's Presence

Focal Passage: Isaiah 6:1-13

Key Verse: "Then I heard the Lord's voice saying, 'Whom should I send, and who will go for us?' I said, 'I'm here; send me'" (Isaiah 6:8).

"How long?" Isaiah asked God. The answer was shocking. Not until cities had been "ruined" and were deserted, the land was "devastated," and the people were sent to live "far away," God said. Isaiah's encounter with God in the Temple was so moving and powerful, he said yes to God's call before he had any idea what it would involve.

Do you think Isaiah would have so readily responded to God's call if he had known the message God wanted him to deliver? Have you ever responded to God with an open-ended yes without knowing any details? What were the results of that response?

**Our Response** The same God who called Isaiah calls each of us to follow Jesus Christ, to become his disciples, to live by his teachings and example, and to lead others into that relationship. Each of us has a place in God's divine plan, a role to fill in growing God's kingdom on earth. Paul wrote, "He gave some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. His purpose was to equip God's people for the work of serving and building up the body of Christ until we all reach the unity of faith and knowledge of God's Son. God's goal is for us to become mature adults—to be fully grown, measured by the standard of the fullness of Christ" (Ephesians 4:11-13). The spiritual practice we are encouraged to engage during this unit is singing (or meditating on) a hymn of praise. We have already seen the psalms repeatedly encourage us to use music to praise God. However, there are also many other passages of Scripture that encourage this spiritual practice. Consider: Chronicles 5:13; Amos 6:5; Ephesians 5:19; Colossians 3:16; Hebrews 2:12; Revelation 14:3-4. You might also want to continue to read or sing some of your favorite psalms. What specific things has God called you to do in building up the body of Christ?

**Dear God, we live in chaotic times. Forgive us when we fail to hear and respond to your call on our lives and when we fail to live by your laws. Show us how to live faithfully each day; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Pasaje focal: Isaías 6: 1-13

Versículo clave: "Entonces escuché la voz del Señor que decía: '¿A quién debo enviar, y quién irá por nosotros?' Dijo: 'Estoy aquí; envíame'" (Isaías 6: 8).

"¿Cuánto tiempo?" Isaías le preguntó a Dios. La respuesta fue impactante. No hasta que las ciudades fueron "arruinadas" y desiertas, la tierra fue "devastada" y la gente fue enviada a vivir "lejos", dijo Dios. El encuentro de Isaías con Dios en el templo fue tan conmovedor y poderoso que dijo que sí al llamado de Dios antes de tener idea de lo que implicaría.

¿Crees que Isaías habría respondido tan fácilmente al llamado de Dios si hubiera sabido el mensaje que Dios quería que transmitiera? ¿Alguna vez le ha respondido a Dios con un sí abierto sin conocer ningún detalle? ¿Cuáles fueron los resultados de esa respuesta?

Nuestra respuesta El mismo Dios que llamó a Isaías nos llama a cada uno de nosotros a seguir a Jesucristo, a convertirnos en sus discípulos, a vivir de acuerdo con sus enseñanzas y ejemplo, y a guiar a otros hacia esa relación. Cada uno de nosotros tiene un lugar en el plan divino de Dios, un papel que cumplir en el crecimiento del reino de Dios en la tierra. Pablo escribió: "Él dio algunos apóstoles, algunos profetas, algunos evangelistas y algunos pastores y maestros. Su propósito era equipar al pueblo de Dios para la obra de servir y edificar el cuerpo de Cristo hasta que todos alcancemos la unidad de fe y conocimiento del Hijo de Dios. La meta de Dios es que seamos adultos maduros, que seamos completamente desarrollados, medidos por la norma de la plenitud de Cristo" (Efesios 4: 11-13). La práctica espiritual que se nos anima a realizar durante esta unidad es cantar (o meditar) un himno de alabanza. Ya hemos visto que los salmos nos animan repetidamente a utilizar la música para alabar a Dios. Sin embargo, también hay muchos otros pasajes de las Escrituras que fomentan esta práctica espiritual. Considere: Crónicas 5:13; Amós 6: 5; Efesios 5:19; Colosenses 3:16; Hebreos 2:12; Apocalipsis 14: 3-4. También puede seguir leyendo o cantando algunos de sus salmos favoritos. ¿Qué cosas específicas te ha llamado Dios a hacer para edificar el cuerpo de Cristo?

**Querido Dios, vivimos en tiempos caóticos. Perdónanos cuando no escuchamos y respondemos a tu llamado en nuestras vidas y cuando no cumplimos con tus leyes. Muéstranos cómo vivir fielmente cada día; en el nombre**

# Well Pleased (Youth class)

## Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ EPIPHANY/BAPTISM OF THE LORD, YEAR C

Our scripture reading today is the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. While it is being read, invite students to think about what it would have felt like to watch Jesus being baptized. Ask them to try to imagine themselves in the story. What do they see? What do they hear? How are they feeling about what is going on in the text today? Read [Luke 3:15-17, 21-22.](#)

### DISCUSSION (15 MINUTES)

-What nouns (people, places, or things) stood out to you today? How are the elements of air, water, and fire, present in the passage?

-Was anything confusing or unfamiliar? Did anything not make sense? (Definitely ask this, because how John describes Jesus (the Messiah to come) is very unique.)

-What do you know about, or what are your experiences with, baptism? (*Leader note – take a minute to write these down on a whiteboard or posterboard. If your church has baptismal traditions, it could be interesting to see – what youth know or remember about baptisms from within your own congregation.*)

-What questions do you have about baptism? (*Leader note – take a minute to write these down on a whiteboard or posterboard. You may want to come back to these at the end of the lesson or ask your pastor to come and answer these questions at your next gathering. For starters, why was Jesus baptized if he was Jewish? Why do we do baptisms as Christians? If Jesus was baptized as an adult, why does the UMC baptize babies?*)

John baptizes Jesus in verse 21. Who else does it say is baptized at this time? (All the people.) What does this tell us about John? What does this tell us about Jesus? What does this tell us about God?

—What reportedly happened during Jesus' baptism? (See verses 21b and 22) Who in the passage (if anyone) do you think recognized the voice of God?

Have you ever had a powerful experience of the presence of God, or perhaps heard God's voice?

—What did the voice that came from Heaven say? \*Compare different translations to have a rich conversation on this point. (You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness.) What is important about each of those statements from the voice?

—Have you ever felt like you heard God speak something directly to you? If so, how can we tell God's voice apart from our own consciousness? (*Ask for students to share and for everyone to be respectful during this time.*)

--Do you believe God performs miraculous signs and wonders today like God did in this passage? Why or why not?

**ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION 'BAPTISM AND THE BAPTISMAL' (20 MINUTES)** Explain to your students that they are going to watch two videos about baptism. The first video is about baptism and the second video is about the baptismal font. After watching the videos, go back to those questions you had students write down at the beginning of your discussion time. If you're able to have a pastor come in and share with the group about baptism, that would be an added bonus.

### Video 1 – Chuck Knows Church: Baptism

What did we learn about baptism?

Is there still some confusion about baptism?

How would you answer the question, "What is baptism?"

Why is it important to be baptized?

What is unique about The United Methodist Church and baptism?

### Video 2 – Chuck Knows Church: Baptismal Font:

1. What did we learn about the baptismal font?
2. What questions do you still have about baptism?
3. What is unique about The United Methodist Church and the baptismal font?
4. Are there things you know about baptism that come from other churches or faith traditions?

# Westlawn

*United Methodist Church*

JANUARY 2022  
122 S. SAN MANUEL SAN ANTONIO TX 78237  
PASTORA LILIANA PADILLA 325-315-8735

## SERVICIO DE ALABANZA ENERO 16, 2022

**¡Mirad cuán bueno y cuán delicioso es  
Habitar los hermanos juntos en armonía! Sal 133:1**

You have established a "new commandment; "help us to live it out in every moment, in every aspect of our lives, in our families, in our churches, in our communities, and throughout the world.

**On this Holy Day, we gather to remember again the miracle that you performed in our lives. You have brought us into the marvelous light. At great cost to you, you have given us new life and life eternal. Amen.**

Has establecido un "mandamiento nuevo"; ayúdanos a vivirlo en cada momento, en todos los aspectos de nuestras vidas, en nuestras familias, en nuestras iglesias, en nuestras comunidades, y en todo el mundo.

**En este Día Santo, nos reunimos para recordar nuevamente el milagro que hiciste en nuestras vidas. Nos has traído a la luz maravillosa. A un gran costo para ti, nos has dado vida nueva y vida eterna. Amén.**

## OFRECEMOS NUESTROS DONES

"Cada uno de como propuso en su corazon, no con tristeza o por necesidad porque Dios ama al dador alegre" 2 Corintios 9:7

Tu puedes enviar tu ofrenda a traves de la pagina de la Iglesia:

[www.myiglesiawestlawn.org](http://www.myiglesiawestlawn.org)

O enviarlo a Rene de La Cruz, 9446 Hindi Dr. San Antonio TX 78224

## Church Events

**2 DE ENERO DE 2022 (Virtual 10:30 am Facebook)**

**Claves para la salud financiera y la alegría Invertir de por vida**

**9 DE ENERO DEL 2022 (Virtual 10:30 am Facebook)**

**Invertir para una vida significativa y gozosa Invertir para la vida: cristianismo y riqueza**

**16 DE ENERO DE 2022 (Virtual 10:30 am Facebook)**

**El cuaderno de un pastor: el legado que dejamos**

**Enero 17.**

**Inicio de Clases de ingles en Divine Grace 9:00-12:00 lunes y miercoles**

**21 DIAS DE AYUNO Y**

**ORACION**

**FEBRERO 1-21 6:30 PM**

# Versos Biblicos!

Deuteronomio 6: 4-7, Juan 13: 12-15, 1 Crónicas 22: 5c-6, 13-14

<sup>4</sup>Oye, Israel: Jehová nuestro Dios, Jehová uno es. <sup>5</sup>Y amarás a Jehová tu Dios de todo tu corazón, y de toda tu alma, y con todas tus fuerzas. <sup>6</sup>Y estas palabras que yo te mando hoy, estarán sobre tu corazón; <sup>7</sup>y las repetirás a tus hijos, y hablarás de ellas estando en tu casa, y andando por el camino, y al acostarte, y cuando te levantes. <sup>12</sup>Así que, después que les hubo lavado los pies, tomó su manto, volvió a la mesa, y les dijo: ¿Sabéis lo que os he hecho? <sup>13</sup>Vosotros me llamáis Maestro, y Señor; y decís bien, porque lo soy. <sup>14</sup>Pues si yo, el Señor y el Maestro, he lavado vuestros pies, vosotros también debéis lavaros los pies los unos a los otros. <sup>15</sup>Porque ejemplo os

he dado, para que como yo os he hecho, vosotros también hagáis. <sup>5</sup>Y dijo David: Salomón mi hijo es muchacho y de tierna edad, y la casa que se ha de edificar a Jehová ha de ser magnífica por excelencia, para renombre y honra en todas las tierras; ahora, pues, yo le prepararé lo necesario. Y David antes de su muerte hizo preparativos en gran abundancia. <sup>6</sup>Llamó entonces David a Salomón su hijo, y le mandó que edificase casa a Jehová Dios de Israel. <sup>13</sup>Entonces serás prosperado, si cuidares de poner por obra los estatutos y decretos que Jehová mandó a Moisés para Israel. Esfúérzate, pues, y cobra ánimo; no temas, ni desmayes. <sup>14</sup>He aquí, yo con grandes esfuerzos he preparado para la

casa de Jehová cien mil talentos de oro, y un millón de talentos de plata, y bronce y hierro sin medida, porque es mucho. Asimismo he preparado madera y piedra, a lo cual tú añadirás.

A Pastor's Notebook: The Legacy We Leave

Deuteronomy 6:4-7, John 13:12-15, 1 Chronicles 22:5c-6, 13-14

[Moses, before his death, said to the Israelites], Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. [On the night before Jesus' crucifixion], after he washed the disciples' feet, he put on his robes and returned to his place at the table. He said to them, "Do you know what I've done for you? You call me 'Teacher' and 'Lord,' and you speak correctly, because I am. If I, your Lord and teacher, have washed your feet, you too must wash each other's feet. I have given you an example: Just as I have done, you also must do. [Shortly before his death], David made extensive preparations before his death. David sent for his son Solomon and instructed him to build a temple for the LORD, the God of Israel. [Then David said to Solomon], "If you carefully follow the regulations and case laws that the LORD commanded Moses concerning Israel, you'll prosper. Be strong and brave. Don't be afraid or lose heart! With great effort I've now provided for the LORD's temple."

## PRAYER

O Jesus, my feet are dirty.  
Come even as a slave to me,  
pour water into your bowl,  
come and wash my feet.

In asking such a thing I know I am overbold but  
I dread what was threatened when you said to me,  
"If I do not wash your feet I have no fellowship with  
you." Wash my feet then, because I long for your  
companionship. And yet, what am I asking?  
It was well for Peter to ask you to wash his feet,  
for him that was all that was needed for him  
to be clean in every part.

With me it is different:

though you wash me now I shall still stand in need of  
that other washing, the cleansing you promised when  
you said, "there is a baptism I must needs be baptized  
with."

## Llama a la pastora!

Sera un honor poderle escuchar y orar  
por usted.

Tambien ayudarle sera un placer. Si  
necesitas comida de emergencia,  
pampers o usar la lavanderia me puedes  
llamar  
325-315-8735

## ORACION

Oh Jesús, mis pies están sucios.  
Ven como un esclavo para mí, vierte agua  
en tu cuenco, ven y lava mis pies.  
Al preguntar algo así, sé que soy  
exagerado pero temo lo que fui  
amenazado cuando me dijiste,  
"Si no te lavo los pies, no tengo comunión  
contigo".

Entonces lávame los pies, porque anhelo  
tu compañía.

Y sin embargo, ¿qué estoy preguntando?  
Pedro hizo bien en pedirte que le lavas los  
pies, para él eso era todo lo que  
necesitaba para estar limpio en todas  
partes.

Conmigo es diferente: aunque me laves  
ahora, todavía necesitaré ese otro lavado,  
la limpieza que prometiste cuando dijiste,  
"Hay un bautismo con el que debes ser  
bautizado".

# SUNDAY CLASS

January 16

## Lesson 7 The Transfiguration

Background Text: Mark 9:2-13

Purpose Statement: To understand how listening to God can radically change our lives **Key Verse:** “**Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice spoke from the cloud, ‘This is my son, Whom I dearly love. Listen to him!’**” (Mark 9:7).

Jesus had been deliberately and carefully preparing his disciples for the fact that he would face suffering on the cross and reassuring them of his identity as the Messiah, God’s Son, the Savior. How would this experience affect these disciples in the coming days and weeks? How did it change their understanding of Jesus and their relationship to God through him? The divine instruction was simple yet profound: Listen. Sometimes when I teach or preach about listening to God, someone will complain that they try to listen, but they don’t feel that God ever says anything to them, or perhaps they can’t hear God. In response, I usually ask them a question: “Have you done the last thing God asked you to do?” Often the individual never answers that question. They may ignore it, or they may say they have never heard God ask them to do anything. A few will honestly admit they probably haven’t. I then ask another question: “Why would God speak to you if you consistently ignore what God has to say?” Like many Christians, years ago, I began using a journal that included, among other things, an extensive prayer list. Each day during my prayer time, I would go over this list in detail with God. After several weeks of doing this, I began to feel God was well aware of everything on my list. I had a strong feeling God was saying to me, “I know about you and your list. How about just sitting still for a moment and listen to me.” Over time, I learned if I sat still and quiet for a while I could hear God’s voice as I had never before. Through this, I’ve learned I don’t have to be talking all the time, and I am not frustrated if I don’t always hear anything in particular from God. Sometimes I simply sit with an awareness of the divine presence and listen carefully in case God does have something specific to tell me. Certainly, in our relationship with God, we have many things we think we need to tell God, and God stands ready to hear us. But as the disciples learned on the mountain-top with Jesus that day, we also need to listen to God, to develop a sensitivity to God’s voice, and to respond to what God says to us. We need to listen. Which do you find it easier to do: talk to God or listen for God’s voice? What are specific things you can do to better hear when God speaks to you?

**Dear God, help us open our hearts and minds to sense your presence, to feel your love, and to hear your voice. Help us comprehend the mission you give us and renew our commitment to your call; in Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

### Texto de fondo: Marcos 9: 2-13

Declaración de propósito: Entender cómo escuchar a Dios puede cambiar radicalmente nuestras vidas **Versículo clave:** “**Entonces una nube los cubrió, y una voz habló desde la nube: ‘Este es mi hijo, a quien amo profundamente. ¡Escúchalo! ’**” (Marcos 9: 7).

Jesús había estado preparando deliberada y cuidadosamente a sus discípulos para el hecho de que enfrentaría el sufrimiento en la cruz y les aseguró su identidad como el Mesías, el Hijo de Dios, el Salvador. ¿Cómo afectaría esta experiencia a estos discípulos en los próximos días y semanas? ¿Cómo cambió su comprensión de Jesús y su relación con Dios a través de él? La instrucción divina fue simple pero profunda: Escúchalo! A veces, cuando enseño o predico sobre cómo escuchar a Dios, alguien se queja de que trata de escuchar, pero no siente que Dios le diga nada, o tal vez no pueda escuchar a Dios. En respuesta, generalmente les hago una pregunta: “¿Has hecho lo último que Dios te pidió que hicieras?” A menudo, el individuo nunca responde a esa pregunta. Pueden ignorarlo, o pueden decir que nunca han escuchado a Dios pedirles que hagan algo. Algunos admitirán honestamente que probablemente no lo hayan hecho. Luego hago otra pregunta: “¿Por qué Dios te hablaría si constantemente ignoras lo que Dios tiene que decir?” Como muchos cristianos, hace años comencé a usar un diario que incluía, entre otras cosas, una extensa lista de oración. Cada día durante mi tiempo de oración, repasaba esta lista en detalle con Dios. Después de varias semanas de hacer esto, comencé a sentir que Dios estaba al tanto de todo lo que estaba en mi lista. Tenía un fuerte sentimiento de que Dios me estaba diciendo: “Sé de ti y de tu lista. ¿Qué tal si te quedas quieto un momento y me escuchas?” Con el tiempo, aprendí que si me quedaba quieto y en silencio por un tiempo, podía escuchar la voz de Dios como nunca antes lo había hecho. A través de esto, he aprendido que no tengo que estar hablando todo el tiempo y no me siento frustrado si no siempre escucho algo en particular de Dios. A veces simplemente me siento consciente de la presencia divina y escucho con atención en caso de que Dios tenga algo específico que decirme. Ciertamente, en nuestra relación con Dios, tenemos muchas cosas que creemos que debemos decirle a Dios, y Dios está listo para escucharnos. Pero como los discípulos aprendieron en la cima de la montaña con Jesús ese día, también debemos escuchar a Dios, desarrollar una sensibilidad a la voz de Dios y responder a lo que Dios nos dice. Necesitamos escuchar. ¿Qué te resulta más fácil de hacer: hablar con Dios o escuchar la voz de Dios? ¿Cuáles son las cosas específicas que puede hacer para escuchar mejor cuando Dios le habla?

**Amado Dios, ayúdanos a abrir nuestros corazones y mentes para sentir tu presencia, sentir tu amor y escuchar tu voz. Ayúdanos a comprender la misión que nos enciendas y renueva nuestro compromiso con tu llamado; en el nombre de Jesús oramos. Amén.**

# 16 January 2022 Love Never Ends: Being the Body of Christ

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY, YEAR C

Our scripture reading today talks about spiritual gifts. One of Paul's main goals is for us to understand that these gifts are not to be used solely by themselves and for individual gain, but to be used together to provide unity and communal growth. Read [1 Corinthians 12:1-11](#).

What words or pieces of the passage were unfamiliar or confusing? Verse 2 says, "when you were pagans." What do you think it means to be a pagan? Is it fair to say that we are all pagans at some point? Why or why not?

- When did you first hear about spiritual gifts? How do spiritual gifts differ from things like natural talents or abilities, or even skills that we practice? How are they the same?
- Can you name any spiritual gifts either from the scripture we just read or other gifts you have heard about? (They start to be listed in verse 8, if you need a place to begin. Eph. 4:11-12 and Romans 12:6-8 are other passages that list spiritual gifts.)
- What are the benefits of such a wide variety of gifts being given to a wide variety of people? What are the drawbacks, if any?
- In verse 8, how would you compare and contrast the gifts of wisdom and knowledge, since they are listed separately?
- Do you think you have any of these gifts? How about your friends? Do you think it is easier to recognize a spiritual gift in yourself or in another person? Why do you think that is?
- Which gifts do you think today's world could use more of?
- How do you know when someone has a spiritual gift, and how do you see them using it?
- What does this passage say is the point of having spiritual gifts? (See verse 7: "A demonstration of the Spirit is given to each person for the common good." They are for the common good, not just for the individual.)

As time allows, walk through each gift and ask students what they think each gift means and how someone using that gift would act.

## ACTIVITY AND DISCUSSION: 'THANK YOU FOR YOUR GIFT CARDS'

Explain to your students that today they are going to be writing thank-you notes to members in the church who have used their gifts to serve those around them. Hand each student a piece of paper or card and something to write with. Ask them to think about all the people in the church who use their gifts to serve one another and the community every week. If youth are unfamiliar with those serving the church on leadership committees, consider providing a list of current Trustees, Staff-Parish Relations, Councils, Finance, etc., and see how many youth are connected to these vital leaders. Encourage them to think of someone different than in last week's activity with the letter. Ask them to write as many cards thanking as many different people for using their gifts as they can. At the same time, ask youth to be as specific and as personal as possible in their notes. Put on some music (optional) and tell your group that they have between ten to fifteen minutes to write as many letters as possible. After they have finished, you can either ask them to take those letters to those individuals, or collect the letters and mail or hand deliver them yourself. Ask these questions as a wrap-up to today's lesson:

1. How many different gifts did you write about in your notes to people?
  2. How did it make you feel to write these letters?
  3. How do you think the people you wrote letters to are going to feel once they get your letter of thanks?
  4. How can we continue to thank and encourage those around us to use their spiritual gifts?
- Close your time together in a manner that is typical for you. Consider taking joys and concerns, then asking for a volunteer to close in prayer.