

PRAYING THE WORD PSALM 40

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

I waited patiently for the Lord;

He turned to me and heard my cry.

**He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.**

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

**Happy are those who make the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.**

You have multiplied your wondrous deeds
and your thoughts toward us, O Lord my God;
none can compare with you.

**Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.**

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire,
but You have given me Your open ear.

**I have not hidden your saving help within my heart,
I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation.**

I have not concealed your steadfast love
and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

**Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me;
let your steadfast love and your faithfulness
keep me safe forever.**

We will follow you, Jesus, Son of God. Amen.



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MORE INFORMATION

Please visit hollywoodsa.org/weekly-e-mail for weekly updates or wearehollywood.org for blog entries on what we're doing here at the Purple Church. You can join our group on Facebook or follow us on Twitter (twitter.com/adventhollywood).

Audio or video recordings of our worship services are not permitted without prior written consent from the church office. Podcasts of this morning's sermon are available online.

We are the proud recipient of the 2010 "Innovative Church of the Year" award, sponsored by Vervent (the NAD Church Resource Center), and the Kettering Hospital "Innovation of the Year" award.

PASTOR'S JOURNAL

Life in this city is demanding with rarely a quiet moment for reflection. There seems to always be more work to be done, more bills to be paid, another exciting event to attend or friends to catch up with. From time to time its important to pause, take stock of our life and assess whether our daily round of activities is moving us closer to the person we want to be and the life we feel called by God to live. Too much self-reflection can also be paralyzing. Some of us probably need to stop thinking, or waiting for the perfect alignment of circumstances, and just do something. A healthy life is one living in a back and forth motion of action and reflection.

Today our text presents us with a question which is as relevant today as it was when Jesus asked it to his first disciples: "What are you looking for?" This is one of those questions that can make you say, "Oh, that's easy, I'm looking for... ummm... Well, let's see... what am I looking for?" This question always reminds me of that old U2 lyric, "I still haven't found

CONTINUED INSIDE...



SECOND SABBATH OF EPIPHANY

Jan 15, 2011



THE CALLING OF THE DISCIPLES (BY HE QI)

OUR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP

PRAYING THE WORD

WORSHIPING IN SONG

READING THE PROPHETS

WORSHIPING IN SONG

READING THE GOSPELS

HOLLYWOOD LIFE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

TEACHING

SONG OF RESPONSE

BENEDICTION

Doxology

Psalm 40:1-11

Meet Wih Me
Once Again

Isaiah 49:1-7

In Christ Alone

John 1:29-42

Eugene Abano

Come and Listen

What Are You Looking For? *Ryan Bell*

How Great is Our God

READING THE PROPHETS **ISAIAH 49:1–7**

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God." And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength— he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Thus says the LORD, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the LORD, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

This is the Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON NOTES

READING THE GOSPELS JOHN 1:29–42

The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, “Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! This is he of whom I said, ‘After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.’ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.” And John testified, “I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.” The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, “Look, here is the Lamb of God!”

The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, “What are you looking for?” They said to him, “Rabbi” (which translated means Teacher), “where are you staying?” He said to them, “Come and see.” They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. He first found his brother Simon and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated Anointed). He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, “You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas” (which is translated Peter).

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SABBATH-MORNING SERVING

Have you been wanting to connect deeper to this church? Are you looking for ways to get more involved?

Our church runs on people. Without volunteers, we don’t function well (it’s like running with a limp). With volunteers, it’s a thing of beauty.

There are many ways you can help out on Sabbath mornings with the worship of this church. Some ways will bring you up front, other ways let you help behind the scenes. If you are interested, please contact Scott via email (scott@hollywoodsda.org) or text/cell (951-961-7694).

VISIBLE VOLUNTEERS

- Musicians (voice, instruments)
- Hollywood Life
- Scripture Reading
- Front-door Greeters
- Prelude Music
- Collecting Tithe and Offerings

INVISIBLE VOLUNTEERS

- *Placing tithe envelopes and connections cards in pews before worship
(this is a great need right now! Please help if you can!)*
- Running Audio and Visual Equipment
- Helping set-up and take-down stage equipment and decoration
- Communion and Foot-Washing (baking bread, pouring juice, set-up and take-down)
- Volunteer Coordinator

CATEGORY COLOR KEY: CHURCH 🏛️ CITY 🏙️ PEOPLE 👥 ARTS 🎨 TIME ⌚

THIS SABBATH

- **ADULT QUARTERLY, 9:30 A.M.** Study and discussion in the Prayer Chapel.
- **CHILDREN'S CLASSES, 10:00 A.M.** Beginners (babies thru 5). Juniors (6-12). Teen Cafe (13+).
- **SABBATH WORSHIP, 11:00 A.M.**

EVERY WEEK

AL-ANON, outside classrooms, Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

BIBLE STUDY, On hiatus.

ARTISTS' WORKSHOPS

- Visual Arts. See Elysabeth Bell for info.

COMMUNITY GARDEN, 5620 Fountain Ave.

- Weds and Thurs, 2:00–4:00 p.m.
- Sabbaths, 3:00–5:00 p.m.,
- Sundays, 9:00–11:00 a.m.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Ninette Marquez-Combs, 1/13

Kirsten Salvador, 1/15

Wayne Jones, 1/19

Sylvestre Keme Jr., 1/25

Sylvestre Keme, 1/29

SUNSET

TONIGHT 5:06 p.m., **FRIDAY** 5:11 p.m.

NEW CONCRETE VOICES PODCAST

The latest Concrete Voices podcast with Brian Lauritzen is up! You can listen online at concretevoices.podbean.com OR you can subscribe through iTunes. Go to the music store and search for 'concretevoices'. You can sign up to automatically receive the latest episode.

A Farm in the City: *How did Los Angeles fall from being one of the top agricultural-producing counties in the United States a century ago to being one of the worst today? What is a food desert? How do we reclaim our urban land to grow food? In this podcast, we meet a man who is trying to answer those questions by literally getting his hands dirty. We visit a modest, 67-plot community garden in the heart of Hollywood, where kale, chard, and broccoli grow in abundance.*

CROSSROADS AT HOLLYWOOD

We have found a way to complete our mural! It will be painted on the exterior of our West wall facing the 101 and Hollywood Boulevard. The only thing we need now is \$7,000 for materials. If you know of a philanthropist or art enthusiast that would have an interest in changing and beautifying the landscape of Hollywood through a donation please speak with Ryan or Nathan.

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS

Jessy Easton—transferring in to the Hollywood Adventist Church from the Mt. Pleasant Adventist Church in Mt. Pleasant, MI. **Second reading.**

Karen Yates—transferring out from Hollywood Adventist Church to the Canoga Park Community Adventist Church in Winnetka, CA. **Second reading.**

PASTOR'S JOURNAL, CONT'D...

what I'm looking for." Bono speaks for many of us—maybe most of us—giving voice to a deep longing for meaning and fulfillment. We haven't exactly found what we're looking for.

There's a good chance that this search is what brings you here this morning. Not to a church service so much as to a community of other seekers. My guess is that most of us don't seek out a church because we have theological questions that need answering (thought those questions no doubt exist and are important). What calls to our hearts more than anything else is the possibility of finding our way to a life well-lived—a life in which we are fulfilling some larger purpose in the world—and to do that in the company of others.

If that's your desire then I hope you'll stick around here and join us in pursuing God's way in this city.

—RYAN