



15 SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome

Welcome to church this morning, we hope you enjoy being with us.

Lectionary readings

This week 15 September, 2024

Proverbs 1:20-33
Psalm 19
James 3:1-12
Mark 8:27-38

Next Sunday 22 September, 2024

Proverbs 31:10-31
Psalm 1
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

Ladies Bible Study

Ladies Bible Study will meet next Tuesday at 3pm in the chapel. They will be looking at Study 6 "Thirty Sayings of the Wise" Proverbs 22:17-24:22.

Jesus Wept

This week we will consider the church as a Jesus community that rejoices with those who rejoice and weeps with those who weep. In worship we tend to focus on the positive aspects of our faith journey, we are good at sharing the joy, however there is also a place for lament. The poem below is a modern day lament by poet Ann Weems (1934–2016) who suffered tragedy firsthand when her twenty-one-year-old son was murdered. She poured her profound grief into writing her own versions of the Biblical lament psalms. In expressing our sorrow there is healing. May this poem bring you peace.

Jesus wept,

and in his weeping,
he joined himself forever
to those who mourn.
He stands now throughout all time,
this Jesus weeping,
with his arms about the weeping ones:
"Blessed are those who mourn,
for they shall be comforted."
He stands with the mourners,
for his name is God-with-us.

Jesus wept.

Blessed are those who weep, for they shall be comforted." Someday.
Someday God will wipe the tears from Rachel's eyes.
In the godforsaken, obscene quicksand of life,
there is a deafening alleluia
rising from the souls
of those who weep,
and of those who weep with those who weep.
If you watch, you will see
the hand of God
putting the stars back in their skies
one by one.

(Excerpted from *Psalms of Lament*. Copyright © 1995 Ann B. Weems. Used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press. All rights reserved.) <https://cac.org/daily-meditations/jesus-wept-2023-04-18/>