



STAYING CONNECTED

A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER FOR OUR MCIVOR CHURCH FAMILY

JUNE 2, 2024

WORSHIP – KEEP A LAMP SHINING BRIGHT (JIMMIE DAVIS | JOYCE REBA RAMBO)

*Keep a lamp shining bright
In the window of your heart
It may guide some weary pilgrim
Struggling aimless through the night
Keep it filled with oil and burning
Should the bridegroom take his flight
Though satan's winds may blow the flame
Keep a lamp shining bright*

*There's a ship out on life's ocean
Lost in waters rough and deep
It may never reach the harbour
If your light they fail to see
So shine the light then give the signal
All is well the shore's in sight
Though satan's winds may blow the flame
Keep a lamp shining bright*

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In the window of your heart
It may guide some weary pilgrim
Struggling aimless through the night
Keep it filled with oil and burning
Should the bridegroom take his flight
Though satan's winds may blow the flame
Keep a lamp shining bright*

*You are the light of the world
A city high upon the hill
A lighthouse beaming across the ocean
A lamp to shine along the trail
And if your light is just a candle
It breaks the darkness of the night
Though satan's winds may blow the flame
Keep a lamp shining bright
Keep a lamp shining bright*

*Keep a lamp shining bright
In the window of your heart
It may guide some weary pilgrim
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PRAYER FOCUS – PRAYING PAUL'S PRAYERS

May we work hard to show the results of our salvation, obeying God with deep reverence and fear. For God is working in us, giving us the desire and the power to do what pleases Him. May we do everything without complaining and arguing, so that no one can criticize us. May we live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. Father, enable us to hold firmly to the word of life, offering You our faithful service with great joy! (adapted from Philipians 2:12-18)



THE SAME ATTITUDE AS CHRIST – PASTOR KIM

Last week Mikayla talked about unity in the church and she shared the phrase “sacrificial community.” The theme of unity carries into this week’s passage as well, but with an emphasis on the importance of the church shining like a bright light in the world.

Paul’s words in Philipians 2:3-4 about not being selfish, thinking of others and being humble are just a few ways that we participate in being a sacrificial community. Sometimes it means giving up our personal preferences and not creating waves over things that are really just personal preferences.

Paul took it further in verses 5-8, where he said, Be like Jesus. Have the same attitude that Jesus had.

Right from the start with Adam and Eve, people have wanted control and power. In the garden Adam and Eve disobeyed God and took matters into their own hands. They wanted to be like God. The tension and struggle between God and humanity had begun. When Jesus

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came to earth, He laid down His status.

The poem or hymn of verses 6-11 has a significant description of Jesus, His identity, His time on earth and the future. We read a description of Jesus, who is God and we read that He loves with a sacrificial love and that through Jesus, God has done what only God can do.

Jesus never stopped being divine, never stopped being equal with God, never stopped being God. His journey to the cross, dying for the sins of humanity was “The perfect self expression of the true God.”
– N.T. Wright

Jesus abandoned His rights for the sake of the world and we are called to do the same. In verses 12-16, Paul reminds the church how to live out their faith.

Imagine what the world could be like if churches were like lighthouses. Lighthouses are visible from far away. They warn of dangers. They guide people to safety. They shine their light. They are beacons. A beacon is a light that is up high and serves as a warning, a signal or a celebration. The church could and should be that in

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our communities. Jesus did say to let our lights shine, not to cover them up.

The world is a beautiful creation, yet we know that because of sin in the world it can be hard to live daily life. The church as a beacon of hope and light can make a difference. The church is to be a group of people living life together in a community that is shaped by the gospel. The gospel is the good news of Jesus Christ. That He came and did not exploit His equality with God, but rather sacrificed His own life, paid the penalty for our sins so that we could be made right with God.

We know that sometimes there are things that we won't all agree on, yet we are to be of one mind and purpose. In other words, make the main thing the main thing: Jesus, who He is, why He came and what that means.

May Mclvor Church be a beacon of light in our community. May we be an example of self-sacrificing love and sacrificial community. May we have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, 7–8:30 p.m. – Kids Club and Youth
Thursday, 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. – Harvest Food Bank
Friday, 7 p.m. – Young Adult Worship Night
June 23, 10 a.m. – Celebration Sunday
June 27, 7 p.m. – Thursday Worship Service

WATCH OUR SERVICES

Our services are available to livestream, or watch: <https://mcivorchurch.com/worship-together/>

Here are a few photos from the Hobby Show – God's creativity and giftings expressed!



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