

SCRIPTURE READING

Judges 7:1-8

Then Jerubbaal, that is, Gideon, and all of the people with him rose early and set up camp beside the Harod spring; Midian's camp was north of theirs, in the valley by the Moreh hill. ²The LORD said to Gideon: "You have too many people on your side. If I were to hand Midian over to them, the Israelites might claim credit for themselves rather than for me, thinking, We saved ourselves. ³So now, announce in the people's hearing, 'Anyone who is afraid or unsteady may return home from Gideon's mountain.'" At this, twenty-two thousand people went home, and ten thousand were left.

⁴The LORD said to Gideon, "There are still too many people. Take them down to the water, and I will weed them out for you there. Whenever I tell you, 'This one will go with you,' he should go with you; but whenever I tell you, 'This one won't go with you,' he should not go." ⁵So he took the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, "Set aside those who lap the water with their tongues, as a dog laps, from those who bend down on their knees to drink." ⁶The number of men who lapped was three hundred, and all the rest of the people bent down on their knees to drink water, with their hands to their mouths. ⁷Then the LORD said to Gideon, "With the three hundred men who lapped I will rescue you and hand over the Midianites to you. Let everyone else go home." ⁸So the people gathered their supplies and trumpets, and Gideon sent all the Israelites home, but kept the three hundred.

Now Midian's camp was below Gideon in the valley.

Judges 7:16-24

¹⁶He divided the three hundred men into three units and equipped every man with a trumpet and an empty jar, with a torch inside each jar. ¹⁷"Now watch me," he ordered them, "and do what I do. When I get to the outpost of the camp, do just what I do. ¹⁸When I blow the trumpet, along with all who are with me, then you blow the trumpets, all of you surrounding the whole camp. And then shout, 'For the LORD and for Gideon!'"

¹⁹Gideon and one hundred of his men moved to the outpost of the camp at the middle watch of the night, when they had just changed the guards. Then they blew the trumpets and smashed the jars that were in their hands. ²⁰So the three units blew their trumpets and broke their jars, holding the torches with their left hands and blowing the trumpets in their right hands. And they called out, "A sword for the LORD and for Gideon!" ²¹Each man stood fast in his position around the camp, and the entire camp took off running, shouting, and fleeing. ²²When the three hundred trumpets sounded, the LORD turned the swords of fellow soldiers against each other throughout the whole camp. The camp fled as far as Beth-shittah toward Zererah, to the border of Abel-meholah, beside Tabbath.

²³The Israelites from Naphtali, Asher, and all of Manasseh were called out, and they chased after the Midianites. ²⁴Then Gideon sent messengers into all of the Ephraim highlands, saying, "Go down to meet the Midianites and take control of the Jordan's waters as far as Beth-barah." So all the Ephraimite men were called out, and they took control of the Jordan's waters as far as Beth-barah.



**Join in fellowship time in the Fireside Room,
every Sunday after 9 am and 11 am services.**

9 a.m. Worship Service

You are known ~ you are loved ~ you are not alone!

▲ OPENER

"Our God"

COMMUNITY BUILDING

▲ PRAISE SONG

"Rooftops"

CONFESSION SONG

"O Come to the Altar"

TIME FOR CHILDREN

After Time for Children, children are invited to attend Sunday School activities. Parents are invited to accompany their children if they desire. Children are also welcome to stay in worship.

WORD

Judges 7:1-8, and 16-24
Common English Bible

MESSAGE

Messy People, Merciful God:
"The Danger of Success (Gideon)"
Rev. Claire Schlegel

▲ RESPONSE SONG

"King of My Heart"

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OFFERING

OFFERING SONG

"Good Grace"

BENEDICTION

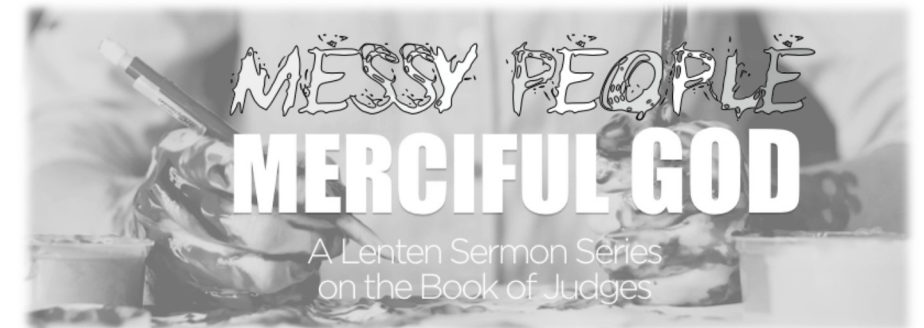
▲ CLOSER

"Nobody"



March 15, 2020
Third Sunday in Lent
Sermon Series:
Messy People, Merciful God

Welcome to Magnolia Presbyterian Church



Reverend Claire Schlegel	Co-Pastor
Reverend Paul Knopf	Co-Pastor
James R. Walters	Music Director/Organist
John W. Wright	Choral Director
Cynthia A. Wright	Pianist
Saw Shein	Contemporary Music Leader
Tessa Islas	Interim Youth Leader
Allison Robinson	Nursery Attendant
Diana Lewis	Administrative Assistant
A. J. Belangeri	Interim Media/Audio Coordinator

7200 Magnolia Avenue, Riverside, CA 92504
(951) 684-7200 www.magpres.com (website)
church@magpres.com (email)
Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 a.m.
Traditional Worship Service 11:00 a.m.

Greeting You This Morning: Donna Crossen

11:00 a.m. Worship Service

Welcome as we worship the Lord with gladness,
for it is God who deserves our praise and thanksgiving.

GATHERING

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PRELUDE

Bill H. Megenny, Bagpipes

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

INTROIT

"Deep Within" by David Haas
Choir & Congregation

Stanza 1: I will give you a new heart, a new spirit within you,
for I will be your strength.

*Refrain: Deep within I will plant my law,
not on stone, but in your heart.
Follow me, I will bring you back,
You will be my own, and I will be your God.*

Stanza 2: See my face, and see your God, for I will be your hope.

Refrain

Stanza 3: Return to me, with all your heart, and I will bring you
back.

Refrain

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP

Awe-inspiring God, we gather together to praise you
for your tender compassion and care of needy people.

Come, all who seek the Lord God, offer your prayers.

Listening God, we gather to revere and honor
your supportive concern for people who cry to you for help.

Come, all who seek the Lord God, offer your praise.

People of every nation are called to gather together to worship
God, in thankfulness for God's loving mercies .

Come, all who seek the Lord God, offer your worship. Amen.

▲ OPENING HYMN #6

"I Bind unto Myself Today"

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION SONG #579

"Lord, Have Mercy"

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

...and now praying together...

***Loving God, we take this time today to come before you, but
as we do, we are aware that all is not right within us.***

***We neglect your word, we fail to meditate on your law, we
forget to speak with you, we make plans without turning to
you, and we do things that we know are wrong. We do not***

▲ All who are able, please stand.
Bold Italic text read in unison.

***put you first in our lives. We fail to recognize your work in
our lives and take the credit for ourselves.
Forgive how we have failed to love you with all our heart,
our soul, our mind, and our strength.
Gracious God, we believe that you offer to us and our
world a whole and good life.
For all that we have done to deny this life to each other
and to ourselves,
we ask your forgiveness and your mercy.***

*from the website of the Tuckahoe Presbyterian Church , Richmond, VA
http://www.tuckahoepres.org/*

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS #447

"We Are Forgiven"

▲ PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you!

▲ HYMN #802, vs. 1-3

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

PROCLAIMING

TIME FOR CHILDREN

After *Time For Children*, Children are invited to attend Sunday
School activities. Parents are invited to accompany their
children if they desire. Children are also welcome to continue
in worship.

HYMN OF PREPARATION #22, v 1-3

"God of the Sparrow"

SCRIPTURE READING, part 1

Judges 7:1-8

Common English Bible

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

"People Need the Lord"

arr. Tom Fettke

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING, part 2

Judges 7:16-24

Common English Bible

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Messy People, Merciful God:
"The Dangers of Success (Gideon)"
Rev. Claire Schlegel

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RESPONDING

RESPONSE HYMN #710

"We Lift Our Voices"

GIVING OF GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"Brian Boru's March" Traditional Irish Tune
James Walters, recorder; Zach Gipson, guitar

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ DOXOLOGY #609

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day
our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is
the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

SENDING

▲ CLOSING HYMN #637

"O Sing to the Lord"

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

"Lead Me, Lord"

▲ POSTLUDE

"Carolan's Receipt" and "Planxty Connor"
Music by Carolan, the Celebrated Irish Bard
James Walters, recorder; Cynthia Wright, piano

End of Worship...Beginning of Service



SERMON NOTES
