

## SERMON NOTES

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## SCRIPTURE READING

Judges 2:11-19 - 3:6 Common English Bible

<sup>11</sup> Then the Israelites did things that the Lord saw as evil: They served the Baals; <sup>12</sup> and they went away from the Lord, their ancestors' God, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods from among the surrounding peoples, they worshipped them, and they angered the Lord. <sup>13</sup> They went away from the Lord and served Baal and the Astartes. <sup>14</sup> So the Lord became angry with Israel, and he handed them over to raiders who plundered them. He let them be defeated by their enemies around them, so that they were no longer able to stand up to them. <sup>15</sup> Whenever the Israelites marched out, the Lord's power worked against them, just as the Lord had warned them. And they were very distressed.

<sup>16</sup> Then the Lord raised up leaders to rescue them from the power of these raiders. <sup>17</sup> But they wouldn't even obey their own leaders because they were unfaithful, following other gods and worshipping them. They quickly deviated from the way of their ancestors, who had obeyed the Lord's commands, and didn't follow their example.

<sup>18</sup> The Lord was moved by Israel's groaning under those who oppressed and crushed them. So the Lord would raise up leaders for them, and the Lord would be with the leader, and he would rescue Israel from the power of their enemies as long as that leader lived.

<sup>19</sup> But then when the leader died, they would once again act in ways that weren't as good as their ancestors', going after other gods, to serve them and to worship them. They wouldn't drop their bad practices or hardheaded ways.

<sup>1</sup> These are the nations that the LORD left to test all those Israelites who had no firsthand knowledge of the wars of Canaan. <sup>2</sup> They survived only to teach war to the generations of Israelites who had no firsthand knowledge of the earlier wars: <sup>3</sup> the five rulers of the Philistines, and all the Canaanites, Sidonians, and Hivites who lived in the highlands of Lebanon from Mount Baal-hermon to Lebo-hamath. <sup>4</sup> They were to be the test for Israel, to find out whether they would obey the LORD's commands, which he had made to their ancestors through Moses. <sup>5</sup> So the Israelites lived among the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites. <sup>6</sup> But the Israelites intermarried with them and served their gods.

**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

"Who You Say I Am"

### COMMUNION

"Good Grace"

### ▲ PRAISE SONG

"Mighty To Save"

### CONFESSION SONG

"Lord I Need You"

At the conclusion of this song: 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 2:11-18  
Judges 2:19 - 3:6 Common English Bible

### MESSAGE

Messy People, Merciful God: "The Cycle Begins"  
*Rev. Paul Knopf*

### ▲ RESPONSE SONG

"Lead Me to the Cross"

### LIFE IN THE CHURCH

### OFFERING

### OFFERING SONG

"The Stand"

### BENEDICTION

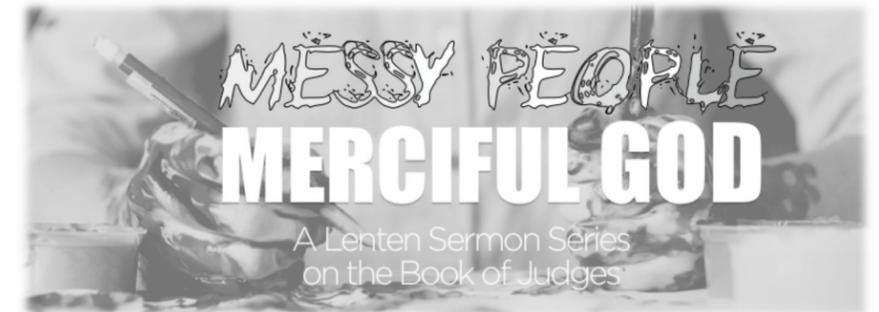
### ▲ CLOSER

"Nobody"



**March 1, 2020**  
**1st 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

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[church@magpres.com](mailto:church@magpres.com) (email)  
Contemporary Worship Service 9:00 a.m.

**Greeting You This Morning: A Friendly MagPres Face**

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

OPENING PRAYER

INTROIT

“Deep Within” David Haas  
Refrain: Choir and Congregation  
Stanzas: Chancel Choir  
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.

▲ CALL TO WORSHIP

Lent calls us to journey, this and every day,  
following Jesus wherever he leads:

**to the workplaces which weary us;  
to the people who confuse us;  
to the faith which threatens us.**

Lent calls us to worship together,  
to tell future generations the good news:

**bringing comfort to those afflicted,  
challenging those residing in comfort.**

Lent calls us to faithful living,  
to trust the One who gives us life:

**inviting us to take up our cross,  
trusting the One who bears it with us.**

Lent calls us to journey with God.

**Let us worship God, who walks with us,  
this and every day.**

▲ OPENING HYMN

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” #65

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION SONG

“In an Age of Twisted Values” #345

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

..and now praying together...

**Most holy God, we admit to you and to each other that we  
are distracted by the false gods of this age. We embrace  
self-centeredness, we are seduced by cynicism, we are  
caught up with consumerism, and we are led by the noise of  
powerful, privileged interests. Most loving God, arrest the**

**false gods that have distracted us, show us the deceits  
that have blurred our vision, unmask the poverty of our  
goals and longings, expose the cheap values that parade  
as virtues, save us from permitting a rift between you  
and us, and deliver us from cheap guilt and trivial  
remorse. Bring us to honest repentance, the forgiveness  
of sins, and the renewal of our faith and love. Through  
Christ Jesus our Savior, Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

▲ PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you!**

▲ GLORIA

“Glory Be to the Father” #581

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

Proclaiming

SCRIPTURE READING, part 1

Judges 2:11-18 Common English Bible

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

CHORAL ANTHEM

“At Your Mercy Seat” Goss  
Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING, part 2

Judges 2:19-3:6 Common English Bible

This is the word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Messy People, Merciful God: The Cycle Begins  
Rev. Paul Knopf

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Responding

GIVING OF GOD’S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

“I Will Wait for You (Psalm 130)”  
John Wright, vocal solo

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

▲ DOXOLOGY

#609

Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND LORD’S PRAYER

Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise...**

(prayer continues)

**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.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

“Come to the Table” Angerman and Nolan  
Chancel Choir

“Christ Be Above Us” Hal Hopson

Sharing of the Bread

As a sign of our unity in Christ, please hold the bread until all are served.

Sharing of the Cup

As a sign of your personal faith in Christ, you may drink as you are ready.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Sending

▲ CLOSING HYMN

“Will You Come and Follow Me” #853

▲ BENEDICTION

▲ BENEDICTION RESPONSE

“Lead Me, Lord”

▲ POSTLUDE

“Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” Arr. Timothy Shaw

Attributions: This series and this service were patterned after the Messy People, Merciful God  
series published in *Reformed Worship* #134. The Communion service is from the *Book Of Common  
Worship* (2018).

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations. . .” Matthew 28:19

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

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