

# St John Church of Christ

November 7, 2021

Worship  
Service

Premiers  
Sunday at 11:00



## Marcus the Therapist



## Welcome to Worship!

We're glad you're here. Bible classes begin at 10:00. For kids, Pete & Penelope, our children's puppet program, is followed by songs and classes.

Join us this fall as we dig into the fascinating book of Revelation. Perhaps no other book of the Bible has been as abused at Revelation. Come learn how a better understanding of "apocalyptic literature" can open doors of insight into the last book of the Bible. Class begins at 10:00 A.M. with worship following at 11:00 A.M.

If you are unable to be with us in person, our worship is shared through our website:

[www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org](http://www.StJohnChurchOfChrist.org)

Simply select "Sermons" from the menubar at the top, or click this link to visit our page on YouTube:

[St. John Church of Christ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Marcus the Therapist sat down with Simon the Zealot. Simon was honing his short sword with a stone, then testing its edge by shaving the hairs on the back of his arm. "Simon, you seem to be a little upset right now."

Simon rubbed his thumb along the blade drawing a bead of blood as he looked up. He clenched his teeth, narrowed his eyes and spat, "Right about that!"

"Would you like to talk about it?" Marcus asked.

Simon drew a deep breath and then let it out slowly. "Do you think in would help?" he asked.

Marcus smiled knowingly. "It just might."

"Well," the Zealot began, "those pansy priests are taking advantage of the poor pilgrims" he said. Marcus cringed at the word "pansy" but nodded and said, "Hmm. Go on."

"Ya see, the pilgrims walk for hundreds of miles to worship in the Temple," the crusty Simon observed. "Some of them are leading or carrying precious little lambs they have raised themselves."

Marcus rolled his eyes. "How will we ever mature as a race if these bloody sacrifices continue?" he thought to himself.

"Well, think about it Doc. The people love those little lambs,

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but they hate their sins. They are consumed by guilt ..." At the word "guilt" Marcus perked up. "That precious lamb will be their sacrifice to atone for their sins. Can you imagine?" he asked.

Marcus shuddered. He could hardly believe this was the first century! Hadn't mankind progressed past such barbarity? "Continue," the therapist nodded.

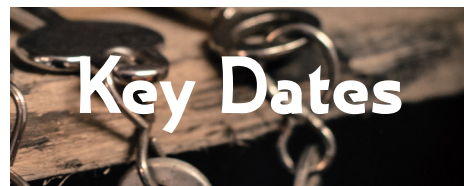
"When the poor pilgrim and his lamb get to the temple, the bleeding priest looks at the pilgrim's sacrifice, shakes his head and points to some so-called 'blemish' on the little lamb. The sacrifice isn't good enough. Then the priest points the pilgrim to one of the official lamb dealers where he can buy a 'pre-approved' lamb - mangy beasts," Simon spit. "Naturally the priests are getting a kick back on the deal, but that's not all!" Simon stood up gripping his razor sharp sword. "The pilgrim can't even use his money - it being tainted foreign money and all. He has to exchange it - at a fee - for so-called Temple money. Only it ain't even real Temple mon-

ey. It's a Tyrian shekel it is!" The Zealot raised his sword in holy anger. "I could just run somebody through!"

Marcus took a deep breath. "I see," the therapist began. "Why don't you sit back down and breathe deeply for a moment. That's right. Try breathing in slowly and letting it out in one big exhale."

With Simon sitting down again, Marcus continued. "Life's not fair Simon," he started. "Sometimes things don't always go the way we think they should. That's no excuse though for your losing your temper. You have a choice. You can choose to become angry and lash out and hurt others, or you can be in control. By not reacting to other people's choices, you are really winning! Doesn't that feel better?"

Marcus looked down at his sundial. "Well Simon, I think you've made good progress today." He stood up, looked out the window and wondered, "Who is that Galilean with a whip over at the Temple?"



## Key Dates

### Monthly Potlucks Resume!

We are resuming our meals together after services on the first Sunday of the Month. The first lunch will be today, **November 7<sup>th</sup>** immediately after morning worship. We will also have a congregational meeting with the elders. Everyone is invited! Please stay.

### CORE Dinner

Our congregation is responsible for serving the meal at the CORE dinner on Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Please see Pam for details.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

11/11: Don Rugan

11/13: Marilyn Thornburg

11/15: Terry Sallee

11/21: Lupe Hudson

11/21: Pam Turner

11/24: Lexi Marks

11/27: Craig and Kari  
Anniversary

11/28: Joe and Lisa Anniversary

### Those Who Serve This Week

Song Leader: Gary Hornbaker

Welcome: Tom Turner

Communion: Orrin Feril

Closing Prayer: Richard Brensing

Sound System: Orrin Feril

November's schedule is posted.

## Prayer Requests

We don't say "Thank you" enough. The Lord has richly answered our prayers this last week. Terry and Joy are home after their bout with covid. Dixie's procedure was a success and her pain is gone. Mam is recovering from shingles. Ned is recovering from covid. Tami is also back at work after her struggle with covid.

We've been praying for John's childhood friend, Paul over the past year. He took his first breath in heaven last Sunday. Services will be in Seattle in December. Please continue to pray for his wife, Bernice.