

POINT GREY INTER-MENNONITE FELLOWSHIP

Web site: www.pgimf.org

March 8th, 2020

Henry Klippenstein - *How Do We Encounter God? Pt. 2*

Lent II

Worship Leader: J. Evan Kreider
Accompanist: Deberah Shears

Song Selector: Angela Ruthven
Usher: Caleb Yang

Last Sunday Henry Klippenstein gave the first of two talks entitled “How do we encounter God?” Since Peter suggested that we are to be “participants in the divine nature” (2 Peter 1:3-4) and since Jesus prayed in Gethsemane that it be possible for us to be one with God (John 17:16-23), just how do we experience our God and participate in ‘the divine nature’? After the renowned scientist, Pascal experienced God most vividly, he was convinced that we experience God more through the heart than through reason. A scientist of our time, James Tour, also reported experiencing God in an intense way that was clearly life-changing. Remembering that scripture teaches that we learn about God through experience and not by reading or creeds, Henry’s next talk (March 8, 2020) will explore two contrasting approaches to experiencing God. [JEK]

The message can be heard in your favourite browser at <https://pgimf.org/service/how-do-you-experience-god-pt1/>

PGIMF News - Upcoming Services

March 15	Janice Kreider	Stories
March 22	J. Evan Kreider	Blindness
March 29	Joji Pantoja	TBA
April 5	Carla Funk	TBA

Membership The fellowship has reserved Pentecost (May 31st) to celebrate church membership with a Membership Sunday in our new place of worship at St. James Community Square (Rm 104). If you feel called to become a member of PGIMF, or know someone who does, please let any member of the board (listed at the bottom of this page) know

Farewell to Menno Simons Event Come March 14th at 2:00 pm to celebrate the legacy of the MSC and say farewell with the students to the building that housed them all for 34 years! Send memories or photographs, and please RSVP on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/events/s/menno-farewell/189615245576771/> or (email available on request)._

Abendmusik You are invited to the final Abendmusik Vespers for this season tonight at St. Philip’s Anglican Church (3737 W. 27th Ave, Vancouver) beginning at 7:30 pm. Offering benefits the Menno Simons Centre

Rotating Charity donation - seeking input Your opportunity to suggest charities for the PGIMF 2020 Annual Rotating Local Charity has been extended to Sunday, March 21st. Please email Travis Martin at (Personal email available from webmaster on request). Please include the basics - organization name, purpose or special project seeking funding, why it’s important to you.

Wider Church News

Refugees The Refugee Food Bank and Sherbrooke Mennonite Church requires more help on Thursday mornings to bag and distribute food supplies when Janice will be away for seven weeks in June and July. If you or someone you know could be a replacement, please let Janice know.

RECORDING THE SERVICE

Please note that we record the response time after the sermon. You are encouraged to share your thoughts as fully as you feel led with the proviso that no privacy can be guaranteed. The response time will not be posted to the website. You are encouraged to bring forth private issues during the time of sharing and prayer, which will not be recorded.

Moderator—Veronica Dyck (604-290-1627); **Worship**—J. Evan Kreider (604-228-1217);
Congregational Care— Lois Funk (604-992-8213); **Recording Secretary**— Andre Pekovich (604-879-0007);
Music—Ruth Enns (604-987-7430); **At Large**— Travis Martin (604-603-7843); Chan Yang (778-681-1475);
Finance — Doug Medley (604-328-2980); **Congregational Co-ordinator** — Janice Kreider (604-228-1217)

PGIMF gratefully acknowledges that we meet on the unceded ancestral lands of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh and Squamish peoples. As Jesus reconciled us to God, we are called and commit ourselves to the work of reconciliation with each other

Save the Date Peace on 52nd church invites you to their Good Friday service April 10th at which the participation of anyone is most welcome. PGIMF has already declined the invitation to participate as a congregation, but we are further invited to open worship up to individuals who want to celebrate with Peace on 52nd themselves.

Climate Emergency and Churches PGIMF is invited to assemble a group of interested and committed individuals to help present or to learn about our response to the climate emergency in Vancouver and what we can do about it. Join others from a variety of Vancouver congregations and temples, led by the City of Vancouver at Temple Shalom (7190 Oak St. at 54th Ave, Vancouver) on Sunday, March 15, from 1:30 to 4:00PM. Ticketing would be handled somehow by the congregation, so if you are interested let a board member know.

VST. *Surprised by Jesus Again: Reading the Bible with the Communion of Saints*, with Rev. Dr. Jason Byassee. A free lecture offered by VST at St. Mark's College (5935 Iona Drive, UBC) reviews the early theological giants from Origen and Gregory to more modern historical witnesses, in multifaceted ways of reading the Bible. Friday March 13th at 7:00 pm in room 300. More info at <https://vst.edu/people/jason-byassee/>

Church for Vancouver A story of hope from Cheslatta First Nation (Kitimat) has a unique Canadian Mennonite intersection. This article, by local Catholic Flynn Ritchie is read on his blog Church for Vancouver at <https://churchforvancouver.ca/good-news-from-cheslatta/>

John 15:1-11

¹I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. ²He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. ³You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. ⁵I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are

gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. ⁹As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. [NRSV]

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the

dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. [NRSV]