



Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, October 1, 2023

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!



World Communion Sunday



This is a key!



Kairos cookies are the key that open the hardened hearts of hardened people to receive the Word and Spirit of God.



Each Kairos team brings 2,300 dozen home baked cookies to each 4-day Kairos mission.

Happy Birthday, Brian!

Once again it's your birthday. Once again the time is here.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Happy time is your birthday, happy time this year.
What a loving gift from Jesus, He has given you one more year.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
For you have Jesus Christ everyday of your life.
Oh happy birthday to you, oh happy birthday to you.
The Lord bless and keep you.
Happy birthday to you. And to Jesus with you.
God bless you and keep you. Happy birthday to you.



The Book of REVELATION

which God
shows things
which are
past and
present and
future and
the things
which shall be

done
and
the things
which shall be
done
all kinds of
Evening
and

Responsive Reading: Psalm 33 (selected verses)

Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous.

It is fitting for the upright to praise him.

For the word of the LORD is right and true.

He is faithful in all he does.



Art by Sue Carroll

The Lord loves righteousness and justice. The earth is full of his unfailing love.

The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.

From where he sits enthroned he watches all the inhabitants of the earth—he who fashions the hearts of them all and observes all their deeds.

**We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help
and our shield.**

Art by Sue Carroll



In home our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.

**May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,
even as we put our hope in you.**



A map of modern-day Turkey, highlighted in a light tan color against a dark blue background. The map shows the country's outline and major geographical features like the Aegean Sea to the west and the Persian Gulf to the south. Several ancient cities are marked with red location pins and labeled in a serif font. The labels are: Pergamos, Smyrna, Ephesus, Thyatira, Sardis, Philadelphia, and Laodicea. The map also includes some faint, historical-style text and labels like 'NORTH', 'ANT', 'AZORES', 'MADRID', 'MOROCCO', 'TRIPOLI', 'BARCA', 'TEHRAUN', and 'PERSIA'.

modern day TURKEY

Pergamos

Smyrna

Ephesus

Thyatira

Sardis

Philadelphia

Laodicea





Pergamum:
THE COMPROMISING CHURCH

Revelation 2:12-17

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father,

You know how we often struggle to *do what is right*.

Sometimes it's more comfortable to agree with the group and say nothing. Sometimes it's more work than we want to do. Sometimes it's easier to convince ourselves that the "little things" we do aren't really so bad. You know how we struggle to *do what is right*.

Lord, give us the courage, the strength, the resolve
to always *do the right thing.* **Amen**



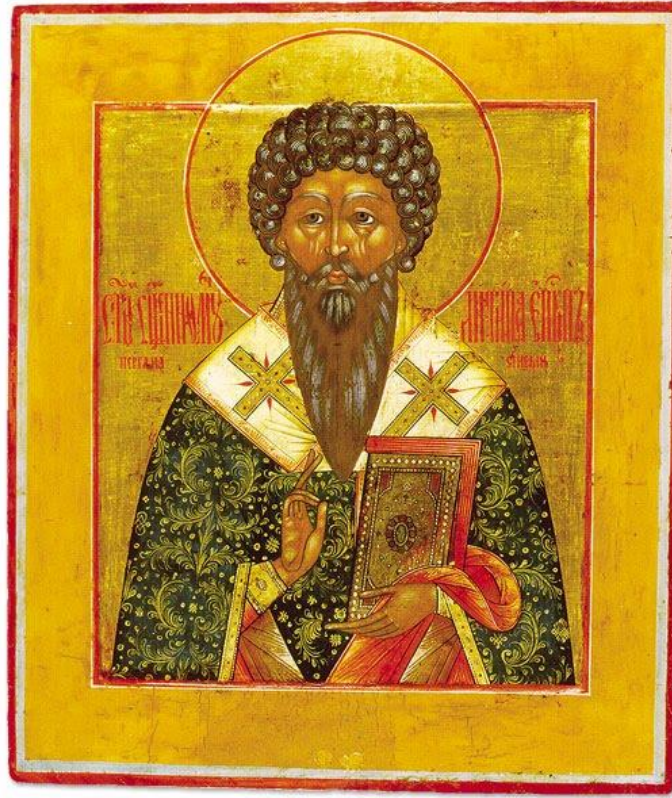
Revelations 2: 12-17

To the angel of the church in Pergamum write:

These are the words of him who has the sharp,
double-edged sword. I know where you live
—where Satan has his throne.

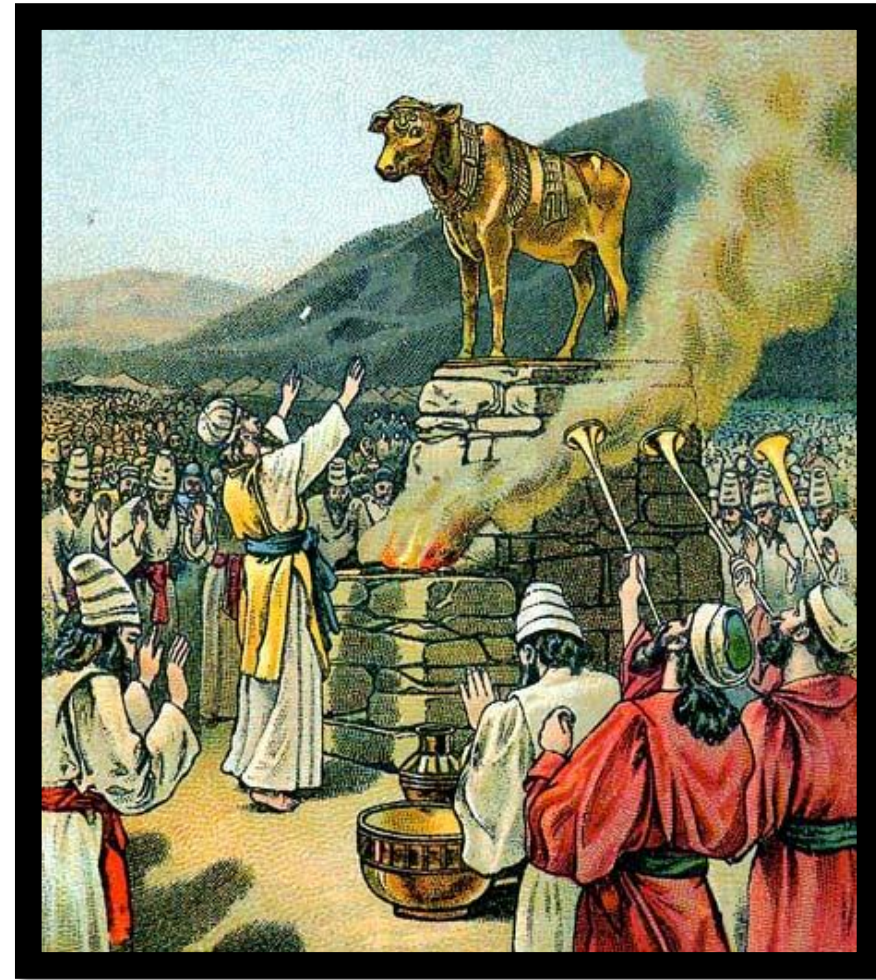
Yet you remain true to my name.





You did not renounce your faith in me, not even in the days of Antipas, my faithful witness, who was put to death in your city—where Satan lives.

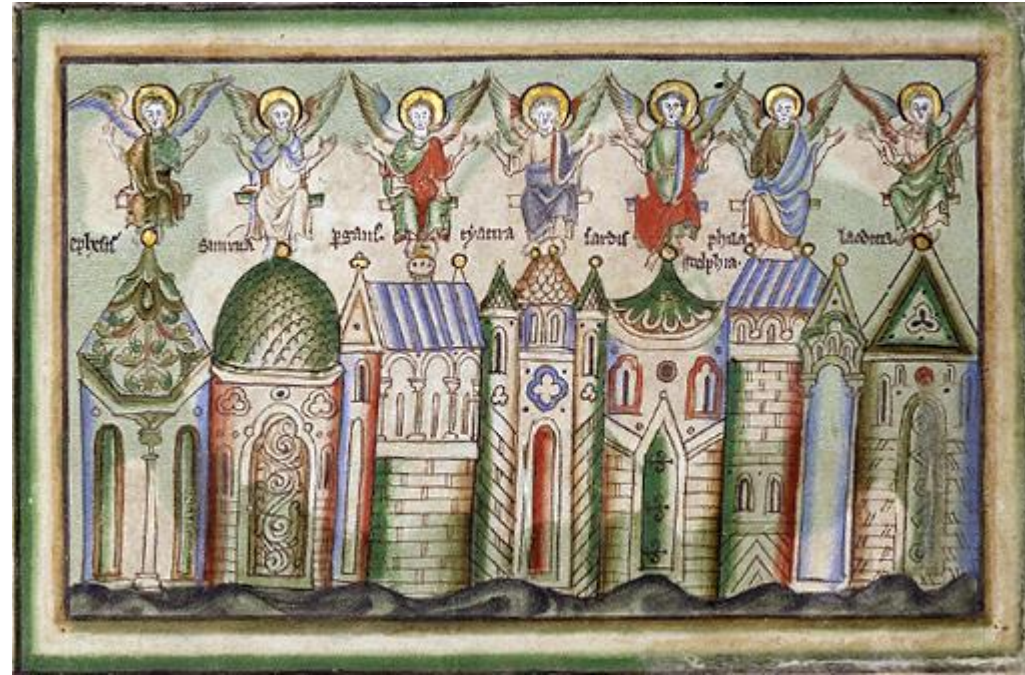
Nevertheless, I have a few things against you:
There are some among you who hold to the teaching of Balaam, who taught Balak to entice the Israelites to sin so that they ate food sacrificed to idols and committed sexual immorality. Likewise, you also have those who hold to the teaching of the Nicolaitans.



Repent therefore! Otherwise, I will soon come to you
and will fight against them with the sword of my mouth.



Consider how far you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. But you have this in your favor: You hate the practices of the Nicolaitans, which I also hate.

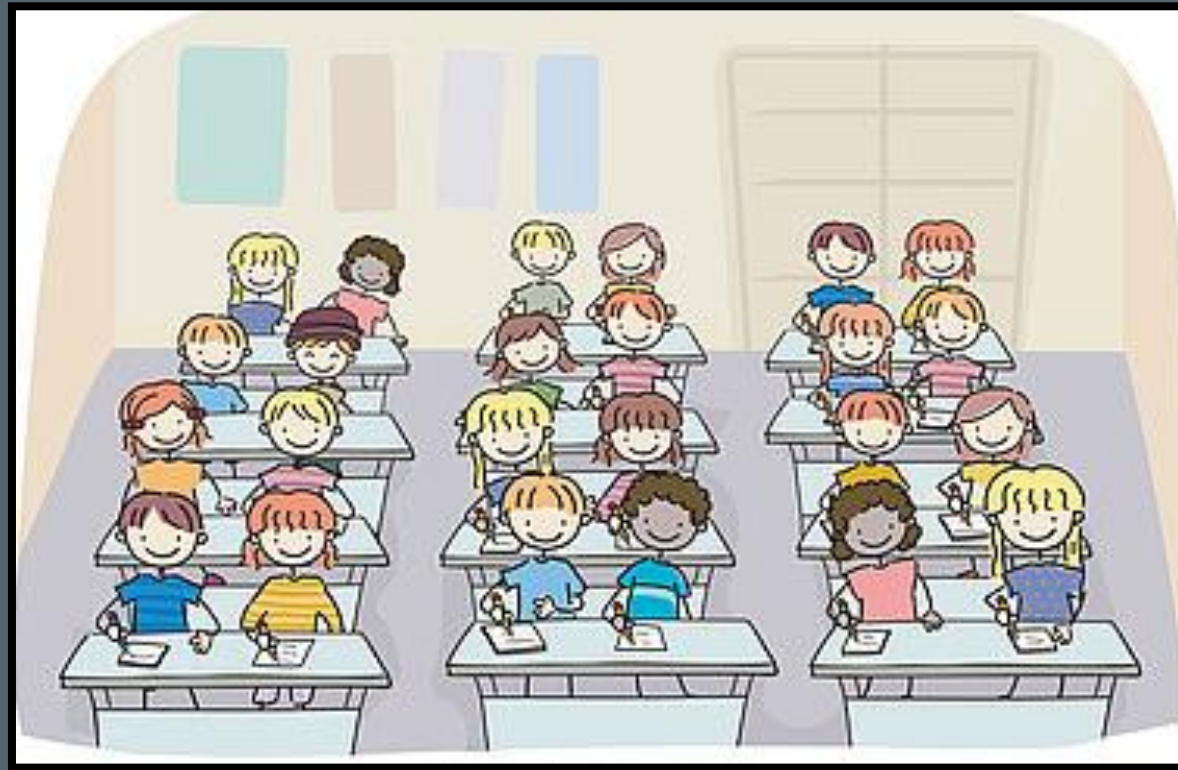


Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches. To the one who is victorious, I will give some of the hidden manna. .

I will also give that person a white stone with a new name written on it, known only to the one who receives it.



Lessons for the Young and Young at Heart



Always do what is right.

항상 옳은 일을 하세요.

Haz siempre lo correcto.

Laging gawin ang tama.

Always do what is right.

Faites toujours ce qui est juste.

永远做正确的事。

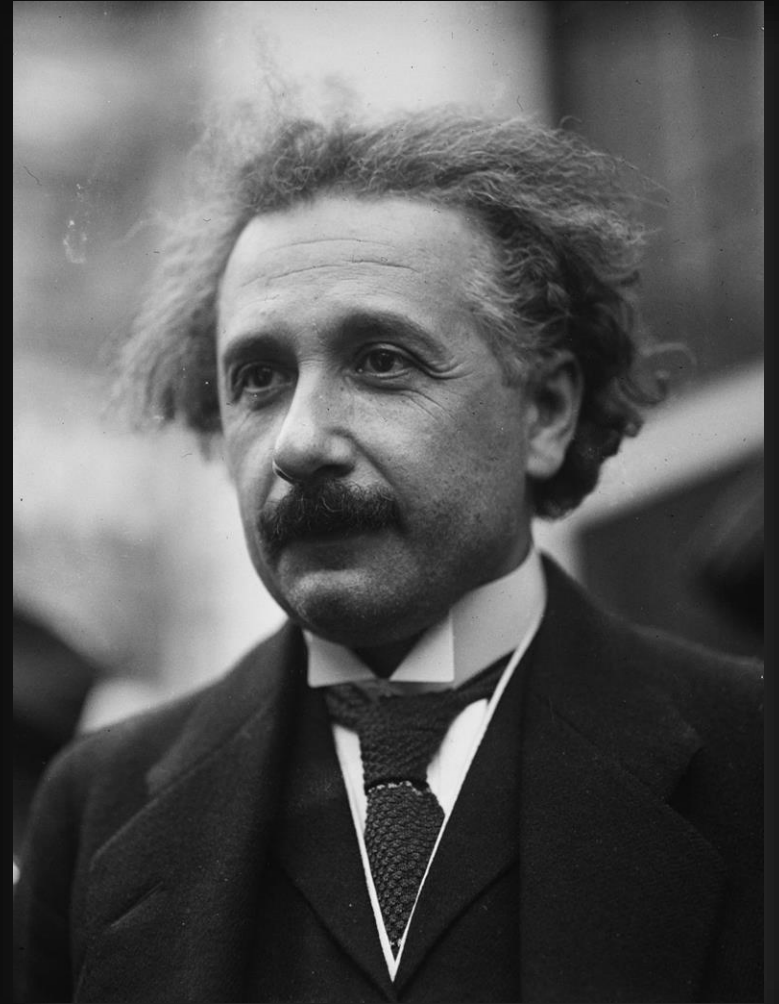
Selalu lakukan apa yang benar.

5¢



What is right is not always popular,
and what is popular is not always right.

—*Albert Einstein*





The time is always right to do what is right.

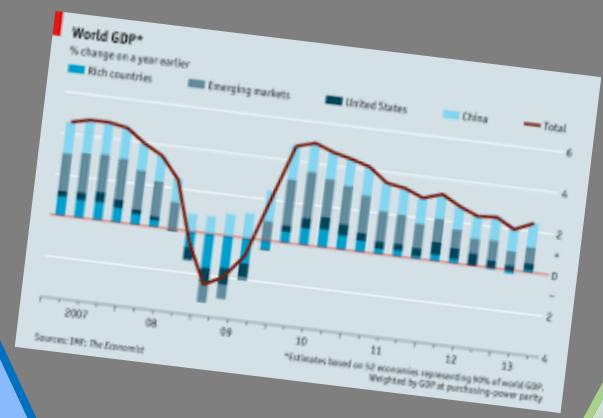
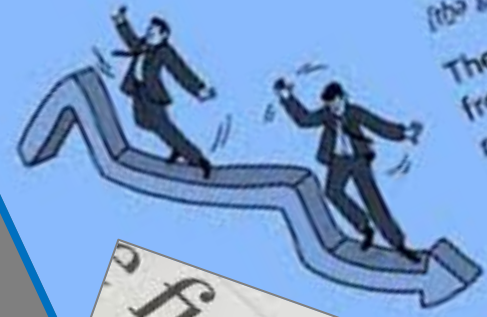
—*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Oratoire St Joseph – Montréal, QC



The Great Recession

The economic downturn from 2007 to 2009 resulting from the bursting of the U.S. housing bubble and the global financial crisis.



Norada
REAL ESTATE INVESTMENTS

CRISIS

financial crisis Great Crash of 2008

disbelief, and a punter re...



**“Sometimes you have to do
what you think is right, no
matter what the cost.”**

**“What is the main characteristic
of a manager who best reflects
the Christian spirit in your work
environment?”**

**“Sometimes you have to do
what you think is right, no
matter what the cost.”**



Psalm 23 - UMH 136

Lead Me, Lord - UMH 47



Community Prayer

Gracious LORD, we are sometimes called on to do or accept things which do not align with the values of our faith, but we dare not speak out in disagreement for fear of offending. When we do this, we run the risk of "going along to get along." We thus can fall into the same trap as the church in Pergamum when their actions were compromised by accepting false teachings so as not to cause friction.

Lord, help us to follow the example of the 18th century Berean Christians, whose practice was to validate all teachings and exhortations against the Holy scriptures.

Remind us that the gift of discernment, especially when used along with the Holy Spirit, is both precious and powerful. Help us to continuously discern and seek the truth in each situation, and once it is discovered, stand firm in it, without compromise. *Amen.*

Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



We give thanks for this wonderful,
generous community of faith.

World Communion Sunday



Holy Communion



My sisters and brothers, Christ invites us all to His table. He asks that we love him, confess our sins, and grow close to him in faith.

In this holy space, let us prepare our hearts and minds to receive his holy sacrament.

Prayer of Confession & Declaration of Forgiveness

Our heavenly Father, You know how often we stumble. We don't come to this table trusting in ourselves; but instead, trusting in You and Your unfailing mercy.

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners, which proves His love and grace. We are a forgiven people. **Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you;

Congregation: and also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

Congregation: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: It is a good and joyful thing to always give thanks to you.
Even when we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. And so we praise Your Holy name.



Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,

God of power and might,
God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory
Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name
of the Lord.

*Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord.*

Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.



On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took the bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."



When the supper was over, he took the cup,
he gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples,
and said, *"Drink from this all of you. This is
my blood of the new covenant poured out for
you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as
often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."*

... And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.





Leader: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again**

Leader: Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

**Christ has died, Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**



Photo by James Gardner

All honor and glory is yours,
almighty God, now and forever.

Amen, amen, amen.

Amen, amen, amen.



Blessing of the Elements

Loving and eternal God, pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to the entire world, until Christ comes in final victory. **Amen**

Breaking of the Bread



Lifting of the Cup



Just as there is one loaf, we who are many are one body.
Just as we all partake of one loaf, the bread which we share
is also a sharing in the body of Christ.

The cup over which we give thanks is a sharing of the Blood of Christ.

Partaking of the Elements





Benediction

Art by Sue Carroll