



Photo by James Gardner

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Culmore
United Methodist Church

Welcome and
Good Morning!

SATURDAY, MARCH 16 AT 11 AM

Celebration of the Life of Noel Mateo Angeles

Christ Church

7600 Ox Road Fairfax Station, VA



<https://facebook.com/events/s/celebration-of-the-life-of-noe/1067517401205747/>

Happy Birthday!

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.







Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley - TFWS 2112

Jesus walked this lonesome valley;
He had to walk it by himself.
Oh, nobody else could walk it for him;
He had to walk it by himself.

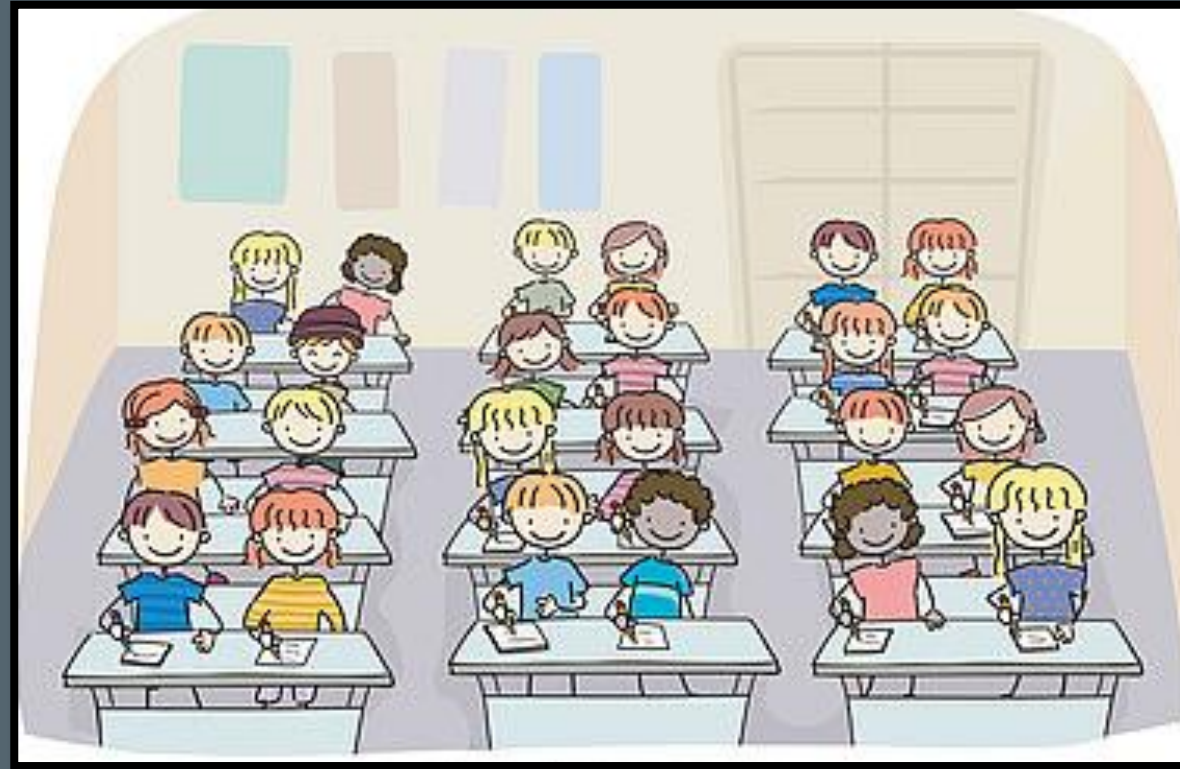
We must walk this lonesome valley;
We have to walk it by ourselves.
Oh, nobody else can walk it for us;
We have to walk it by ourselves.

You must go and stand your trial;
You have to stand it by yourself.
Oh, nobody else can stand it for you;
You have to stand it by yourself.

Art by Sue Carroll



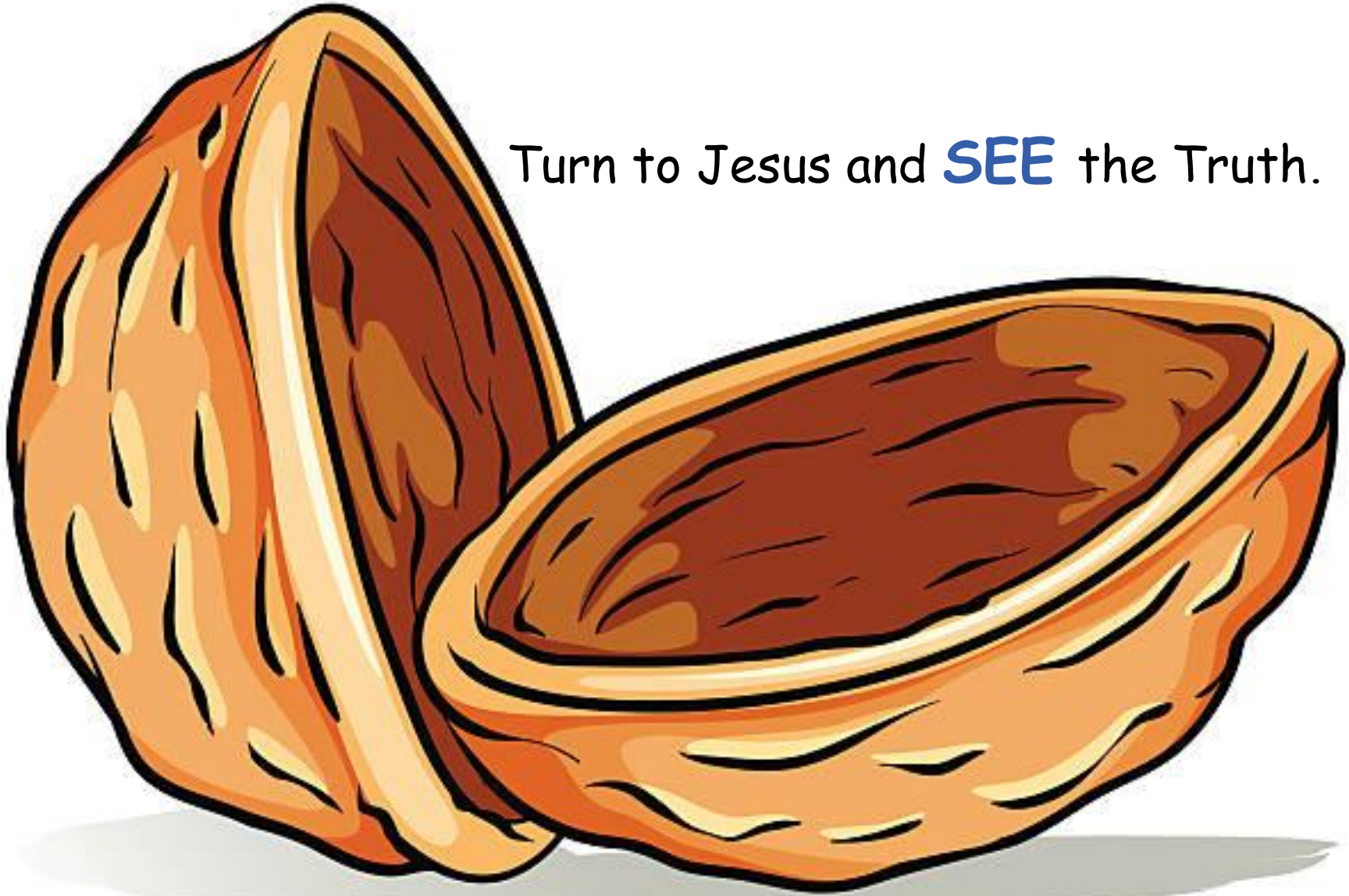
Lessons for the Young and Young at Heart





Nicodemus

Turn to Jesus and **SEE** the Truth.



Opening Prayer

Father,

Like Nicodemus, we want to **see clearly**. Like Nicodemus, we struggle when we find that Your Truth is different from what we had imagined. Like Nicodemus, keep us honest with ourselves and with You.

Lord, help us be like Nicodemus and *see clearly*. Help us find the courage and the conviction to follow You, even when it's hard.

Help us commit to seeing and believing Your Truth—no matter what—just like Nicodemus. *Amen*



John 3: 1-9 (NIV)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus *late at night* and said, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him."

Jesus replied, "Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again."



"How can someone be born when they are old?"
Nicodemus asked. "Surely they cannot enter a second
time into their mother's womb to be born!"



Jesus answered, "Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit....You should not be surprised at my saying, *'You must be born again....'*"

"How can this be?" Nicodemus asked.





I still believe that standing up for the truth of God is the greatest thing in the world.

This is the end of life:

The end of life is not to be happy.

The end of life is not to achieve pleasure and avoid pain.

The end of life is to do the will of God, come what may.

Martin Luther King, Jr.



John 7: 45-52 (NRSV)



Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest him?"

"No one ever spoke the way this man does," the police answered.



"You mean he has deceived you also?" the Pharisees retorted.

"You don't see any of the rulers or the Pharisees believing in him, do you? No! It's only this crowd, that knows nothing of the law, that is taken in by him."



Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before and who was one of them, asked, "Does our law condemn a man without first hearing him to find out what he has been doing?"

They replied, "Are you from Galilee, too? Examine the evidence and you will find that no prophet is to arise from Galilee."



John 19: 38-40

Joseph of Arimathea was a disciple of Jesus, but a secret one, because he feared the Jewish leaders. Joseph asked Pilate to let him take away the body of Jesus. With Pilate's permission, he came and took the body away.

Nicodemus, who had first come to Jesus at night, **came now in broad daylight**. He brought a mixture of myrrh and aloes, weighing about a hundred pounds. He and Joseph took Jesus' body and wrapped it with the spices in strips of linen, according to Jewish burial customs.



Surely the Presence of the Lord – UMH 328



Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;

I can feel his mighty power and his grace.

I can hear the brush of angels' wings;

I see glory on each face.

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Community Prayer

LORD Jesus,

We live in a culture where there is “your truth” and “my truth,” leading to constant conflicts when the ideas are far apart.

We give You thanks and praise for all the truth we find in God’s Word, to help us live our lives each day in ways that are pleasing to God.



It takes both Your wisdom and courage to live in a way that shows others what Your grace, love, and truth look like in action. That is not always something that makes us popular or even welcome in our darkened world. But with Your help, this is what You have called Your people to do! ***Amen***



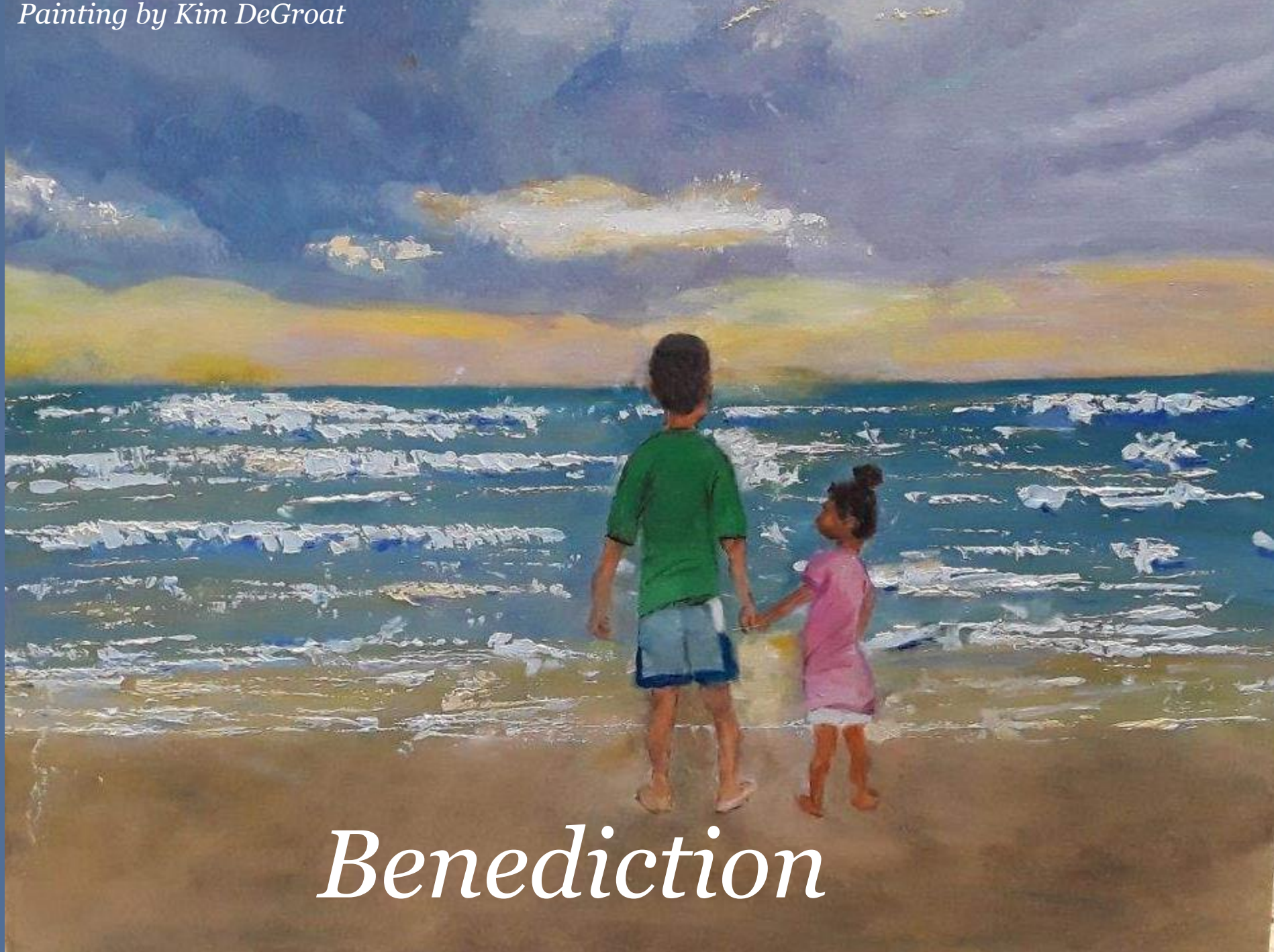
Offering and Doxology

UM Hymnal 95



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

Painting by Kim DeGroat



Benediction