Question to ponder this week:

How can we be both kind and honest with one another? How can we engage in tough conversations that strengthen our community? Show us, we pray, O God.

To find the prayers that are posted this week, follow a link from the church website or go to Youtube and search for St Andrews Hespeler Presbyterian Church (the url is https://www.youtube.com/@standrewshespeler73). Subscribe to this channel and you will receive automatic updates.

To prepare for your prayers, find a comfortable and quiet spot. Set aside 10 to 15 minutes during which you will not be interrupted. Follow the instructions on the video.

Meditative Prayer for Monday, April 10, 2023

Colossians 3:5-11 Good News Translation

The Old Life and the New

⁵ You must put to death, then, the earthly desires at work in you, such as sexual immorality, indecency, lust, evil passions, and greed (for greed is a form of idolatry). ⁶ Because of such things God's anger will come upon those who do not obey him. ⁷ At one time you yourselves used to live according to such desires, when your life was dominated by them.

⁸ But now you must get rid of all these things: anger, passion, and hateful feelings. No insults or obscene talk must ever come from your lips. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, for you have put off the old self with its habits ¹⁰ and have put on the new self. This is the new being which God, its Creator, is constantly renewing in his own image, in order to bring you to a full knowledge of himself. ¹¹ As a result, there is no longer any distinction between Gentiles and Jews, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarians, savages, slaves, and free, but Christ is all, Christ is in all.

Lectio Divina for Wednesday, April 12, 2023 (This can be done either using the video or in person in the sanctuary at 9:00 am.)

The text will John 8:2-11

² Early in the morning he came again to the temple. All the people came to him, and he sat down and began to teach them. ³ The scribes and the Pharisees brought a woman who had

been caught in adultery, and, making her stand before all of them, ⁴they said to him, "Teacher, this woman was caught in the very act of committing adultery. ⁵Now in the law Moses commanded us to stone such women. Now what do you say?" ⁶They said this to test him, so that they might have some charge to bring against him. Jesus bent down and wrote with his finger on the ground. ⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let anyone among you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸And once again he bent down and wrote on the ground. ⁹When they heard it, they went away, one by one, beginning with the elders, and Jesus was left alone with the woman standing before him. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and said to her, "Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?" ¹¹She said, "No one, sir." And Jesus said, "Neither do I condemn you. Go your way, and from now on do not sin again."

Lectio Divina for Sunday, April 16, 2023

The text will be Jeremiah 1:4-10

- ⁴ Now the word of the Lord came to me saying,
- ⁵ "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations."
- ⁶ Then I said, "Ah, Lord Goo! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷ But the LORD said to me,
- "Do not say, 'I am only a boy,' for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you.
- ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD."
- ⁹Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me,
- "Now I have put my words in your mouth.
- ¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow,

to build and to plant."

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