



We, too, will be invited to the party, as we will enter into the saints' heavenly worship this Sunday morning, on All Saints Sunday. Here Albrecht Dürer (1471-1528), in "The Adoration of the Trinity", portrays the crowd of martyrs on the left, led by Mary, and the group of Old Testament prophets and kings on the right, led by John the Baptist. Clergymen and laypersons following the heads of the State and Church are shown in the lowest horizontal zone in heaven. © Web Gallery of Art. On Sunday, in the "Office of the Saints", we will commemorate our departed loved and honored ones in the faith.

We Don't Have to Wait until Death to Learn the Life Lessons Which the Awareness of the Imminence of Death Can Teach Us

Just as the Apostle Paul did when he wrote his final words to Timothy, when we are faced with death it can be common "to look back on our life in review, to appraise what has happened in the light of what is about to come," the Rev. Dr. Brook Thelander said in his sermon Sunday.

"An in the face of death, we speak of *what*—and *who*—ultimately matters to us. And if we are people of faith, we speak of God," Pastor Thelander said.

"I felt drawn to Paul's final words to Timothy this week, and I've tried to draw from them what I call life lessons in the face of death. Perhaps one reason I felt compelled to preach this text is that it is possible for us to learn these lessons and implement them in our lives long before we actually die."

"Lesson number one comes in verse 7: 'I have fought a good fight, I have finished the race, I have remained faithful.' Paul's lesson seems to be to choose your metaphor of life carefully. And Paul often saw life as a race, a marathon. *And in the race of life, to finish is to win.* . . . Determine in your heart today that you are following God's will for your life to the end. Determine in your heart today that you will finish the race God has set before *you*."

Lesson number two: "How you live your life matters, and there is a direct correlation between how we live and how we die, and what happens to us after we die. Lesson number two forces us to ask the question: How am I investing my life?"

Lesson number three: "People will disappoint you and even harm you", including between parent and child, between spouses, and within the church, "as Alexander the coppersmith did to the Apostle Paul. What I have often found as a pastor is that people sometimes carry these hurts and wounds inflicted on them by others to their death. Sometimes at the door of death, they are able to release those hurts and let them go, and find some measure of peace before they actually die—but wouldn't it be a wonderful thing if we could release those hurts and leave those disappointments along the side of the road *now*? . . . You (p.2→)

Editor: Box 972, Boise, ID 83701. 208-336-3951, harbinger@aol.com

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brook Thelander, epworthrector@msn.com

On the Web: www.epworthchapelonthegreen.org

Sundays 10:00 a.m.: Word & Table service—**first Sunday off Daylight Savings**

11:30 a.m.: Refreshments, conversation

11:45 a.m.: Post-service discussion

6:00 p.m.: **(First Sundays only) Evensong, tea & refreshments**

Thursdays: 6:30 p.m.: Evening Prayers. 7:00 p.m.: Singing & discussing hymns.

For the poor: Thanksgiving needs: Turkeys, corn, canned green beans, stuffing mix, instant and fresh potatoes, cranberry sauce, disposable salt and pepper shakers, paper plates, tamale ingredients (masa corn meal, pork, beef), spices. **Christmas needs:** Hams, ready-to-serve rolls, butter or margarine, frozen pies, cake mixes, breakfast/brunch foods, eggs, muffins, pancake mix, sausage.

Readings, 11/4, 10 a.m.: Neh. 9:7-14; Ps. 149:1-9; Eph. 1:15-23; Luke 6:20-26. **11/4, 6 p.m.:** Ps. 84; Neh. 5:1-19; Acts 20:7-12. **11/11:** Job 19:23-27; Ps. 17:1-8; 2 Thess. 2:13—3:5; Luke 20:27-38.

Prayer Emphases: Jordan; Free Methodist Church of North America; Second Baptist Church, Boise, and the Revs. Jim Steiner and Brian Merz; Fellowship of Christian Magicians; parishioners on Poplar Street.

(Sermon, cont'd.) can release it now, and lighten your load as you continue your journey." Lesson four: "Sometimes you must stand alone in life, especially if it's for what you believe is right," but "you are never really alone; Jesus is present with you." Lesson five: "In life or in death, we can live in confident hope," because God can "bring the Kingdom to full fruition" in your life.