This Week's Sermon: Rules, Rules, Rules Pastor Sam Gyorfi 6.4.2023

Scripture readings during worship

Psalm 115-1:8

Psalm 115

1

Not to us, Lord, not to us but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness.

2

Why do the nations say, "Where is their God?"

3

Our God is in heaven; he does whatever pleases him.

4

But their idols are silver and gold, made by human hands.

5

They have mouths, but cannot speak, eyes, but cannot see.

6

They have ears, but cannot hear, noses, but cannot smell.

7

They have hands, but cannot feel, feet, but cannot walk, nor can they utter a sound with their throats.

8

Those who make them will be like them, and so will all who trust in them.

Sermon Scripture

Mark 2:18-3:6

Jesus Questioned About Fasting

- **18** Now John's disciples and the Pharisees were fasting. Some people came and asked Jesus, "How is it that John's disciples and the disciples of the Pharisees are fasting, but yours are not?"
- **19** Jesus answered, "How can the guests of the bridegroom fast while he is with them? They cannot, so long as they have him with them. **20** But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken from them, and on that day they will fast.
- 21 "No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse. 22 And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."

Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

23 One Sabbath Jesus was going through the grainfields, and as his disciples walked along, they began to pick some heads of grain. 24 The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is unlawful on the Sabbath?"
25 He answered, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need? 26 In the days of Abiathar the high priest,he entered the house of God and ate the consecrated bread, which is lawful only for priests to eat. And he also gave some to his companions."
27 Then he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath."

Jesus Heals on the Sabbath

- **3** Another time Jesus went into the synagogue, and a man with a shriveled hand was there. **2** Some of them were looking for a reason to accuse Jesus, so they watched him closely to see if he would heal him on the Sabbath. **3** Jesus said to the man with the shriveled hand, "Stand up in front of everyone."
- **4** Then Jesus asked them, "Which is lawful on the Sabbath: to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?" But they remained silent.
- **5** He looked around at them in anger and, deeply distressed at their stubborn hearts, said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was completely restored. **6** Then the Pharisees went out and began to plot with the Herodians how they might kill Jesus.

Themes: Continuation of what I started last week. Jesus breaking the rules and people starting to get upset. How does Jesus deal with people accusing him of breaking the rules for the sake of the Kingdom of God? Who should we approach rules and expectations when trying to bring the kingdom of God to earth?