

YOU
will be my
WITNESSES

**A SERMON SERIES
IN ACTS**

FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH
Sunday, May 23, 2021

APPROACH

The Call to Worship Colossians 1:13-14
The Passing of the Peace of Christ *
All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (Hymn #96) *
His Mercy is More *
The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon Tim Wierenga
Gloria Patri *

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

The Reading of Scripture: Acts 5:12-42
The Prayer for Illumination
The Path to Rejoicing Pastor Rhett Austin

RESPONSE

May the Mind of Christ my Savior (Hymn #390) *
The Prayers of the People Ryan Lorimer
O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer *
The Lord's Prayer
The Benediction *
The Doxology * Hymn #625

* Please stand, if able

¹² Now many signs and wonders were regularly done among the people by the hands of the apostles. And they were all together in Solomon's Portico. ¹³ None of the rest dared join them, but the people held them in high esteem. ¹⁴ And more than ever believers were added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, ¹⁵ so that they even carried out the sick into the streets and laid them on cots and mats, that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them. ¹⁶ The people also gathered from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

¹⁷ But the high priest rose up, and all who were with him (that is, the party of the Sadducees), and filled with jealousy ¹⁸ they arrested the apostles and put them in the public prison. ¹⁹ But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said, ²⁰ "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." ²¹ And when they heard this, they entered the temple at daybreak and began to teach. Now when the high priest came, and those who were with him, they called together the council, all the senate of the people of Israel, and sent to the prison to have them brought.

²² But when the officers came, they did not find them in the prison, so they returned and reported,

²³ "We found the prison securely locked and the guards standing at the doors, but when we opened them we found no one inside." ²⁴ Now when the captain of the temple and the chief priests heard these words, they were greatly perplexed about them, wondering what this would come to. ²⁵ And someone came and told them, "Look! The men whom you put in prison are standing in the temple and teaching the people." ²⁶ Then the captain with the officers went and brought them, but not by force, for they were afraid of being stoned by the people.

²⁷ And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, ²⁸ saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." ²⁹ But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men.

³⁰ The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. ³¹ God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. ³² And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him." ³³ When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. ³⁴ But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. ³⁵ And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. ³⁶ For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing.

³⁷ After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. ³⁸ So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; ³⁹ but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow them. You might even be found opposing God!" So they took his advice, ⁴⁰ and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. ⁴¹ Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. ⁴² And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.

NURSERY AND CHILDCARE

Children are always welcome to worship with their parents for the duration of the service at Faith Community Church. Due to COVID-19 safety guidelines, we are not offering distinct nursery and childcare at this time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: SUNDAY, JUNE 13 (FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE)

Mark your calendar for our congregational meeting on June 13 to pray together and to review the budget for the 2022 fiscal year. The meeting will take place in the Mission Center following the worship service.

MISSIONAL PRAYER LIST

Join us in praying for these particular people, ministries, and needs this week. The prayer requests below follow our church's purpose statement: "We exist for the glory of Christ, the growth of his church, and the good of the community." If you have a prayer request you would like included in the Midweek Update and bulletin, please contact our church office at 630-231-8230; churchoffice@faithchurchwc.org.

FOR THE GLORY OF CHRIST

Praise God for his faithfulness to our church and pray that he would equip us to do all things to the glory of Christ.

FOR THE GROWTH OF HIS CHURCH

(see monthly missionary prayer update for additional information, available in the narthex).

Global Church and Missionaries

Abby Eernisse serves with World Outreach Ministries, ministering to those caught in human trafficking.

Our Denomination (PCA)

Committee on Discipleship Ministries, as they minister to congregations connecting people to biblical resources.

Our Church Leaders and Ministries

Pastor Rhett and his family
Elders Larry LaBelle, Tim Wierenga & Don Johnson
Men's & Women's Ministry teams
Haiti mission trip (July 23-31): pray for the spread of the gospel in Haiti, the preparations for the trip, and for the equipping, health, and protection of local Haitian Christian leaders and the team.

FOR THE GOOD OF THE COMMUNITY

Winfield Township

MISSIONAL PRAYER LIST (CONT.)

Local Mission Partnership: World Relief supports refugees in our area as they adjust to life in a new country and culture.

Congregational Needs:

Karla Van Der Molen: Please pray for Karla as she undergoes further testing at Mayo Clinic in view of a possible ALS diagnosis.

Ric Bekius: FCC missionary Ric Bekius returned home Sunday evening following his second hospitalization due to COVID-19. Please pray for strength as Ric continues to recover from the virus.

Family of Niki Rauba: Please pray for comfort and peace for the family of Niki Rauba, who passed away suddenly at the age of 29 last Friday. Niki was a friend of Diane Walker and her daughter Tegan.

THIS WEEK AT FAITH

TODAY

9:30am Worship Service (in-person & livestream)

11:00am Adult Sunday school, Worship Center

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

10:00am Women's Bible study, Room 3/4

SATURDAY, MAY 29

8:00am Men's Bible study, Room 3/4

IN SERVICE

TODAY

Sound & Computer

Joe Paglia

SUNDAY, MAY 23

Sound & Computer

Dan Wetherington

SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021
The Path to Rejoicing
Acts 5:12-42
PASTOR RHETT AUSTIN