

**BETHESDA MENNONITE CHURCH
HENDERSON, NEBRASKA
SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020, 9:30 A.M.
Fourth Sunday of Lent**

God's people are now in the land God promised them. God has delivered the Israelites and when they entered the land with Joshua, they promised full obedience to Him. They couldn't keep this promise; they were so easily pulled into the religious pluralism of the day. But God keeps coming back to them. When they cry for mercy, God raises a new judge. And for a time, the Israelites obey. Yet even the judges become increasingly flawed and sinful – not quite the heroes our Sunday school stories sometimes make them out to be. In Judges we see a messy people and a merciful God.

We, too, are messy people. The more we confess our messiness and our brokenness the more God's transformational mercy can shape us into the people God means for us to be. The true hero of the book – and of each of our stories – is God!

Prelude Marilyn Kroeker, Pianist

Introit Jay Kroeker

Welcome & Call to Worship Pastor Seth Miller

Leader: Return to the Lord your God.
For God is gracious.
Confess to the Lord your God.
For God is merciful.
Repent to the Lord your God.
For God is slow to anger.
Praise the Lord your God.
For God abounds in steadfast love.
Worship the Lord your God.
Together, let us worship God!

"Christ is our Cornerstone" HWB 43

Children's Focus Pastor Andrea Wall

"There is a Place of Quiet Rest" HWB 5

Congregational Prayer Pastor Andrea Wall

Time of Reflective Silence

- † Where do self-reliance and the gods of our times – security, achievement, success – derail you from trusting in God?
- † Where have you seen or experienced God's strength displayed in weakness in your own life or elsewhere?

Scripture Reading: Judges 11:1-13, 29-40 (CEB) Pastor Seth Miller
Leader: This is the Word of God, for the people of God.
Thanks be to God!

Message "Dark Times: Jephthah" Pastor Gene Thieszen

"Who has Known the Mind of Jesus" STJ 58

Announcements Pastor Seth Miller

Offering to God: Local Church Pastor Seth Miller
(Offering may be given online through your banks online bill payment feature or mailed to Bethesda Mennonite Church.)

Benediction Pastor Gene Thieszen

"God be With You" HWB 430



Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

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Website: www.bethesdamc.org

- When you are unable to attend worship, please join us by radio at KOOL 103.5 FM or by livestream at www.bethesdamc.org. Click the WATCH LIVE tab to view live services or click LIVESTREAM ARCHIVE to view previous services.
- Hearing Impaired Worshipers: If you need hearing assistance, feel free to sit in the front center seating to take advantage of our Hearing-Loop system. Williams units are also available in the rear of the sanctuary for your use.
- When you desire pastoral care outside of office hours, please call:
 - Pastor Seth Miller: 717-824-5998 (cell) or email seth.miller@bethesdamc.org
 - Pastor Gene Thieszen: 580-660-5796 (cell) or email pastor.gene95@gmail.com
 - Pastor Andrea: 402-710-3195 (cell) or email andrea@mainstaycomm.net
- In addition to assistance from Bethesda pastors and deacons, domestic abuse support services are available to victims. Call (toll-free) 1-877-388-4673, 24 hours/day.



Lenten Series
The Book of Judges