



Liturgy Notes for the week of January 7, 2018

Liturgy: The Work of the People

Friends and strangers, passionate believers, hopeful skeptics: All are welcome as full participants or thoughtful observers.

If you are visiting, you'll find a card in the pew pocket explaining our liturgy. Fill out the back side and drop it in the basket to keep in touch.

This Week's Reading: Matthew 16:13-20

13 Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" 14 And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." 15 He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" 16 Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." 17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." 20 Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

NOTES

See You Throughout the Week

- Lunch Today: Galaxy Cafe in the Triangle
- 1/14: Family Meeting (after Liturgy)



Practicing the Way of Jesus for North/Central Austin
AustinMustardSeed.org

Community Group Discussion Guide

Community Groups are "Families on Mission."

Learn more at AustinMustardSeed.org/CommunityGroups.

Use this guide to facilitate discussion in your group and in personal reflection.

Check-in

Always begin by checking in. This is a time for everyone in the group to speak briefly. You may choose to always use the basic check-in question "what was one high point and one low point from your past week?" or come up with an "icebreaker" of your own.

Sermon Synopsis

Our Mission: To form communities of Jesus who experience and expand God's work of renewal together.

In the history related through the Bible, we see an invitation to humanity to partner in God's purpose of setting things right in this world. As a church, we join that ongoing story too. We believe that the best thing we can offer one another is a sense of purpose in this world. We form communities, from smaller groups to new churches and everything in-between, so that we can walk alongside others as we partner with God.

Discussion Questions

1. Look back at this week's reading, Matthew 16:13-20. Why does Jesus react so strongly to Peter? What does it mean that this statement is a "rock" on which Jesus' "church" can be built?
2. Think of the businesses, organizations or churches you have seen or participated in. Could you tell if they had a clear mission? How did the mission (or lack thereof) shape your experience?
3. Read the statement again. Does this ring true with your experience at AMS? How so? Share a story of when you have seen this take place.
4. As we live this statement out, what kind of stories do you hope to see? In your life? In your community group? Beyond?
5. Who do you know who might want to be a part of a community like this? If possible, take a moment to name the people you think of and pray for them.

Our Shared Blessing

Close your time together by reading together this blessing:

Austin Mustard Seed, may we live alongside one another in a way that invites people to reimagine and reconsider what this Christian life is. May we continue to form communities - from tiny intimate circles to new churches - that will offer space for other to find greater purpose and connection. May we be a people who come together in order to live and tell the better story of God's continual work of renewal.