



Who is God?

By – Max Lucado



So, who is God? Can I trust Him to take care of me? How much time do you have?

The weather changes—but God is UN-changing! Fashion changes. Even change changes. But Hebrews 6:17 says God is always the same—yesterday, today, and tomorrow. So, can we trust God? Is He powerful enough? You and I are limited—I think that goes without saying! One sneeze in my direction, and I'm contaminated, sick with a cold and out for a week. No one can soil or stain God.

No sin contaminates Him.

We're limited by brain capacity, time, relationship overload, and responsibilities—you can only be at one soccer game at a time after all! And patience! But God? He has no limit to his time, power, knowledge and love.

Check it out for yourself in Psalms 147:4-5

He counts the stars
and names each one.

Our Lord is great and very powerful.

Responsive Reading: Psalm 164:3-4, 7-13

- PC: Declare him Lord, sun and moon and all you shining stars.
PC: *Declare him Lord, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies.*
- PC: Declare him Lord, you great sea creatures and all ocean depths.
PC: *Declare him Lord, lightning and hail, snow and clouds, and stormy winds.*
- PC: Declare him Lord, your mountains and all hills and your fruit trees and all cedars.
PC: *Declare him Lord, wild animals and all cattle and you small creatures and birds.*
- PC: Declare him Lord, kings of the earth and all nations and you princes and all rulers.
PC: *Declare him Lord, young men and women and you old folks and children.*
- ALL: Let them praise the name of the LORD!**

Lesson: Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

Gospel: Mark 1:4-11

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

Gospel – (cont'd)

After they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

SALEM FAMILY EVENTS



Keep on reaching out to your fellow parishioners, especially those who have little to no contact otherwise!

Family Pathways
Is having their annual
Holiday Food Drive
A person can stop by any of
the food shelves with
donations of foodstuffs or
money



We could have Sunday School if we have teachers - anyone interested?



Last Week

Announcements....

- Carol Cantwell is now at Birchwood in Forest Lake having had some hospitalization for heart-valve issues –would appreciate prayers and calls (651) 466-1239
- to Millie Teresa Johnson, granddaughter of Linda and Doug Miller, daughter of Crystal and Alexander Johnson, who was baptized at Salem on Jan. 9th (godparents: Paula and Aaron Lauer).
- The parish council will be meeting remotely (via email) again this month. If anyone has any concerns or interests, they would like the council to address, please contact either PR Rob or a council member (listed on the prayer list).
- Please arrange to pick up your donation envelopes for 2021; they are available at the Church's building. Please keep Salem in mind as you are able to financially; this is one way to show your gratitude to God for the gifts/blessings you have received. Thank you in advance for your generosity.
- A confirmation process for adults will be conducted over the winter and into the spring. Please contact PR Rob if you are interested in being confirmed or if you'd just like 'come along' for a systematic refresher on /review of our faith and its practice.



- During a job interview at the 99 Cents store, my son was asked, "Where do you see yourself in five years?" My son's reply: "At the Dollar Store." He got the job.
- "I make mistakes; I'll be the second to admit it."
- Q: What do you get when you combine an insomniac, an agnostic, and a dyslexic? A: Someone who lays awake at night wondering the true meaning of Dog.
- Did you hear about the two psychiatrists who passed each other on a walk? One said to the other, "You're fine, How am I?"
- I bought one of those tapes to teach you Spanish in your sleep. During the night, the tape skipped. Now I can only stutter in Spanish.
- There is nothing more awkward than the moment you realize you're getting a double-cheek kiss.

