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This Sunday Aug 4

SUNDAY SERMON PREVIEW

God at the Gate



Dear Nelly,

Wendell Berry shares a story that speaks powerfully and poignantly to me about his friend Lily. Berry is a poet, novelist, essayist who lives and farms on his family farm in Kentucky. Berry's values are compelling: simplicity, living with limits, friendship, community, good conversation. The story is in an essay, "Quantity vs. Form," which is about one of his favorite topics: the modern American obsession for more-of everything.

Berry writes, *My family and I had a good friend I will call Lily. Lily was industrious and generous, a good neighbor. She was especially well-loved by her neighbors' children and grandchildren, though she had no children of her own. She lived a long time, surviving her husband by many years. At last, permanently ill and debilitated, she had to leave the small house that she and her husband had bought in their latter years and go to the nursing home. My brother, who was her lawyer, never until then*

Summer Choir Rehearsal
9:45 am

Adult Bible Study
10 am

Children's Sunday School
10 am

Sunday Morning Prayer
Group
10:30 am

WORSHIP CELEBRATION
11 am
Rev. Dr. Glenn
Carson, Guest Preacher

Kid's Church
11 am

Lifeline Gathering
6 pm

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Sunday Morning Prayer
Group

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Conversations on the 2020
Vision

much needed, arranged for the sale of her house and all her worldly goods.

I went to visit her a day or two after the sale. She was bedfast, sick and in some pain, but perfectly clear in her mind. We talked of the past and of several of our old neighbors, long gone. And then, speaking of the sale of her possessions, she said, "I'm all finished now. Everything is done.

She said this so cheerfully that I asked her, *Lily, is it a load off your mind?*

She said, *Well, Wendell, it hurt me. I laid here the night when I knew it was all gone, and I could see it all, all the things I'd cared for so long. But, yes, it is a load off my mind. (The Way of Ignorance and Other Essays, p. 81)*

Berry concludes, *I was so moved and impressed by what she said that I wrote it down. She had lived her life and met her hardships bravely and cheerfully, and now she faced her death fully aware and responsible and with what seemed to me a completed grace. I didn't then and I don't now see how she could have been more admirable.*

I love this story as Lily in her simplicity, grace and living within the limits of her situation teaches us much about life and living and what really matters.

This Sunday morning a dear friend of mine and of the congregation will be preaching, the Reverend Dr. Glenn Carson, President of the Disciples Historical Society on God at the Gate.

The readings for Sunday: [Psalm 107:1-7, 14-16](#) and [Colossians 3:1-11](#).

See you at *The Park*!



Rev. Dr. Alvin O. Jackson

EVERY SUNDAY, 10:30 AM, Back of the Sanctuary

Sunday Morning Prayer Group



We invite you to join us in the back of the sanctuary for a time of prayer for our

Quotes of the Week

Upcoming Events

Service and Witness

* The [Saturday Community Lunch](#) program welcomes volunteers every Saturday. Contact [Rev. Luis-Alfredo](#) to participate.

* For information on free food and assistance programs throughout the five boroughs, visit the [New York City Coalition Against Hunger](#).

[Visit the church's volunteer webpage for more opportunities](#)



Donations
General Fund
Flowers and Decorations

church community, our city and the world.

Fund
Stewardship Campaign
Building Fund
Sanctuary Book Fund

SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 11 & 18, 1-3:00 PM

Summer Holy Conversations on the 2020 Vision



short cuts

[Worship Schedule](#)
[Free Parking](#)

[Church Video Channel](#)
[Past Sermons](#)
[Pastor Jackson's Blog](#)

[Lifeline](#)

[Arts at The Park](#)

[Music Ministry](#)
[XY Factor at The Park](#)
[Facebook Group](#)

[Interfaith Partner:
Congregation Da'at Elohim/
Temple of Universal Judaism](#)

God has shown you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

Vision

We dare to SEE a faithful, growing healthy congregation of thousands over the next ten years that seeks to demonstrate true community, deep Christian spirituality and a passion for justice.

Values

We dare to BE a church that embraces the divinity and dignity of difference by actively seeking and welcoming all people regardless of race, age, culture, economic circumstance, sexual/gender orientation, physical or mental condition. We dare to be a church that lives to serve others.

Mission

We dare to DO ministry in such a way that reaches and impacts the upper east side, the city of New York and beyond with the radical claims of the gospel of Jesus Christ through our worship and our witness as we strive to build and model the beloved community of God.

We're registered with
Good Search...
are you?



When you use
GoodSearch.com and
GoodShop.com to search
and shop on-line, *The Park*
earns a commission!

**Sunday,
August 11,
1:00 pm-3:30 PM
Holy Conversation**

Calling all the Congregational members of *The Park*! Join us for the third Holy Conversation on the future of our church. A light lunch will be served. To attend, please RSVP to Nelly x110 or Kim

x102 in the church office.

**Sunday,
August 4, 1:00-3:00 PM
Holy Conversation**

Calling All Couples! Pastor Jackson and Ms. Tina invite all couples of the church to join them for a gathering at the Manse for a Holy Conversation on the future of our church. Those couples who have joined *The Park* and those who are yet discerning about their place at *The park*.

A light lunch will be served.

To attend, please RSVP to Nelly x110 or Kim x102 in the church office.

**Sunday,
August 18, 1:00-3:00 pm
Holy Conversation**

Calling All XY'ers! Pastor Jackson and Ms. Tina invite all XY'ers of the church (20-30 year olds) to join them for a gathering at the Manse and a Holy Conversation on the future of our church. All XY'ers whether you are new to the group or have been there for years, no matter if you are a regular or just one that pops in and out.

A light lunch will be served.

To attend, please RSVP to Nelly x110 or Kim x102 in the church office.

Quotes of the Week

A greedy father has thieves for children.

~Serbian proverb

Earth provides enough to satisfy every man's need, but not every man's greed.

~Mahatma Gandhi, 20th century

Upcoming Events

Sundays, July-Aug - Summer Choir, Sanctuary

Join the summer choir in leading worship. All are welcome to sing with us. Simply arrive at 9:45 a.m. and join in rehearsal at the front of the Sanctuary.

Daily, Aug 1- 2 - Deanna Witkowski in Bryant Park, Aug 1, 2-4 pm; Aug 2, 12:30-2:30

Deanna Witkowski would like to invite all friends of the Park to her final two performances of solo jazz piano in Bryant Park (42nd St btw 5th/6th Aves)! The

piano is located between the outdoor café and the Bryant Park Grill, right next to the statue of Mr. Bryant. For more info, check out Deanna's website at deannajazz.com.

Sunday Aug 25 - A Called Congregational Meeting, After Worship, Sanctuary
Topic is based on the 2020 Vision and the future of the church.

Did you know that there are scores of events -- bible study, concerts, committee, common interest, and self-help meetings -- happening every month at 1010 Park Avenue and around the city?
[Visit our website calendar](#) to find an activity that calls to you!

EVERY SATURDAY - Saturday Community Lunch Program
For over 20 years, *The Park* and its partnering congregations serve lunch to approximately 200 guests. [Contact Rev. Luis-Alfredo to volunteer.](#)

EVERY SUNDAY - [Lifeline](#), 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Lifeline is a spiritual gathering for people recovering from all kinds of addiction, affected family and friends, and others who seek the promise of healing and restoration that only God can provide. Beginning at 6 pm, there is an hour of meditative music, prayers and speaker who shares his or her experience about addiction, recovery and spirituality. Fellowship and food afterwards.

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CLICK ON EVENT TITLES (WHEN [HIGHLIGHTED](#))
FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT TICKETED EVENTS

This Week at The Park is published every Thursday by

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[Contact us via email.](#) [Visit the church website.](#)

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