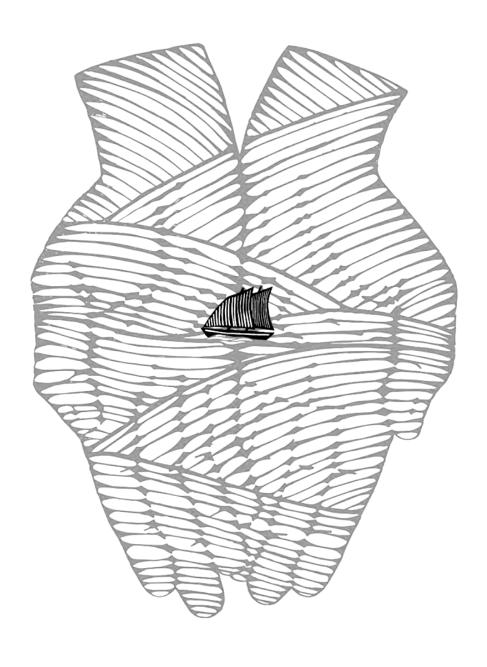


(the deep abyss, chaos)



Men's Weekend Away 2019

Welcome.

Welcome to the All Souls men's weekend away. We hope this feels like a weekend away from the chaos of home, work, normal life. But also— in the spirit of this time **not simply being just for ourselves**— we hope your time here equips you to *re-enter* the chaos of home, work, normal life in a non-anxious way, because as Paul describes it in Philippians 4, "the Lord is at hand"— **present, gracious, hospitable**— even in the midst of the chaos.

This weekend we will have time to reflect on the ways we typically navigate chaotic situations, relationships, or seasons in our lives. We will also use some of the timetested ways Christians have used to practice God's presence. We will use *lectio divina* (a way to meditate on Scripture), praying in a *triad* (a group of three), and *morning/evening worship*.

Our time together this weekend is lightly structured with free time, some focused moments, and meals— all of which are designed to connects us to each other, to God, and to the church of old who've gone before us— we are deeply rooted in something much larger than ourselves or our own (chaotic) cultural moment.

You should always feel the freedom to participate actively or to just listen and observe at your discretion. This is a time to process freely and safely the audacious claims of Jesus, of his love for you and your deep need of Him.

We haven't heard the gospel for what it really is if we don't find it at once horribly offensive and staggeringly beautiful. It is both heart-breaking and heart-mending.

So this weekend, let us explore the chaos in our lives with the courage only found in Christ. Let's get away in order to re-enter.

Questions:

What feels chaotic in my life right now?

What are some of my strategies or patterns for managing (or avoiding) the chaos in my life?

Are these strategies or patterns helpful? Who benefits? Who is hurt?

What has God done with chaos and why do I need Him to do it? How does this shape the way I deal with chaos?

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cover art by Scott Erickson



Schedule

Friday, September 27, 2019

4:00 PM - 8:30 PM Arrive and settle in

8:30 PM - 8:45 PM Orientation

8:45 PM - 11:00 PM Free time

Saturday, September 28, 2019

8:00 AM - 9:00 AM Breakfast

9:00 AM - 12:30 AM

Welcome

Morning worship

Framing thoughts

Individual reflection/prayer

Small group reflection/prayer

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Lunch

1:30 PM - 5:00 PM Free time + options for group activities

5:30 PM - 6:00 PM Evening worship

6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Happy hour

6:30 PM - 9:30 PM Feast

9:30 PM - 11:00 PM Campfire

Sunday, September 29, 2019

7:00 AM - 8:00 AM Breakfast bar

8:00 AM - 8:30 AM Pack up + cleanup

8:30 AM Departure

Please silence all devices for the duration of worship

welcome

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community. We gather to enter the presence of the Lord and offer him praise, as he graciously invites us to do. We come to sing, pray, encounter scripture, celebrate his mercy, and to simply be together. We're glad you're here.

standing

call to worship

Lord, open our lips.

And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Psalm 95:1-8

O come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth,

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands have molded the dry land.

O come, let us worship and bow down,

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

In the Bible, God calls us to worship, because it is not our natural impulse to come to Him. But He calls, reminding us of His pursuing love, and we respond in gratitude.

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts. words: Robert Robinson music: Ashael Nettleton

hymns

Come thou fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing thy grace
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I'm come
And I hope by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God
Here to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be
Let that grace now like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost, but now am found Was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, And grace my fear relieved; How precious did that grace appear, The hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; 'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, And grace will lead me home.

And when this flesh and heart shall fail, And mortal life shall cease; I shall possess within the veil, A life of joy and peace.

When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise,
Than when we've first begun.

words: John Newton

Hymns comprise most of the worship songs at All Souls, because of their richness, doctrinal depth, and focus on God's character and redemptive work. Many hymns are patterned after the Psalms with their varied expressions of praise and thanksgiving, and, too, a wrestling with what it is to trust in a love as audacious as the Lord's. Our hope is that these hymns and prayers set to music would lead us into a dynamic encounter with our Savior, in worship.

- ¹ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.
- ² I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. ³ Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.
- ⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- 8 Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you. 10 I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. 11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.
- 14 Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. 15 And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. 16 Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. 17 Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. 18 I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God. 19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. 20 To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.
- 21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. 22 All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.
- 23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

seated

framing thoughts

R.J. March + Peter Barrett

prayer Lectio Divina

Lectio Divina (pron. lexio diveenah) has been around since the 6th Century, its origins going back to Benedict of Nursia, a gifted community-builder whose influence is still felt today. Benedict and others who used and adapted this reading technique had a high view of the Bible:

They, along with the author of Hebrews, saw the Bible as "living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Hebrews 4:12).

Let this vision of God's desire to be powerfully present in His Word inform your use of Lectio Divina.

spread out

observe silence

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶ do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Read through the passage paying attention for a word or phrase that jumps out to you. Write it down below. Remember this word or phrase and pray it back to God reflecting on how it has struck you.

Read through the passage again but this time listen for what this passage says about who God is and what he has done. How does this passage point to who Jesus is and what He has done to save, redeem, heal, rescue. How do we see His suffering and sacrificial love anew? How do we see His triumph over death, sin, evil afresh?

Read the passage again and this time listen for what God is showing you about yourself as you read this passage. How is God's love helping you to face yourself honestly? Speak to God about your need for Him.

Read the passage again and this time listen for how life will be when God brings an end to all evil. How can you pray for your family, parents, friends, community, city, the world?

prayer

Triads

meet in groups of three

Begin by introducing yourself if you don't already know each other.

Share with the other two people:

What feels chaotic in my life right now? (a situation, relationship, a season you are in, etc.) What are some of my strategies or patterns for managing (or avoiding) the chaos in my life? Are these strategies or patterns helpful? Who benefits? Who is hurt? What has God done with chaos and why do I need Him to do it? How does this shape the way I deal with chaos?

What was one thing you learned or want to do because of the prayer time?

Take turns praying for each other.

prayer

from the General Thanksgiving

all together before lunch

Lord, we thank you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts, we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in your ways, all our days. Amen.



Please silence all devices for the duration of worship

call to worship

from The Book of Common Prayer

Bold text is read together by the congregation. Plain text is read by the leader. Responsive readings remind us that during corporate worship God speaks to his people and we respond together as a community.

Open my lips, O Lord, and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

standing

reflection

Pause for a moment to quietly reflect on your day. What gives you cause to thank God? What makes thanking God difficult? Let's acknowledge these things silently before the Lord.

Lord have mercy on us,

Christ have mercy on us.

prayer of praise

The Phos Hilaron

O gracious light, pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven, O Jesus Christ holy and blessed!

Now as we come to the setting of the sun, and our eyes behold the vesper light, we sing your praises O God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,
O Son of God, O Giver of Life, and to be glorified through all the worlds.

Surely, it is God who saves me;

I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,

and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing

from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things.

Your word is a lantern unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

seated

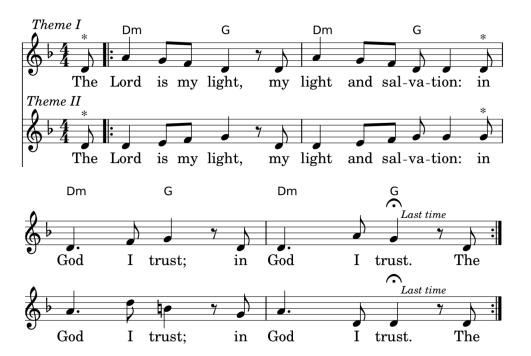
reflection

from Augustine's Confessions

O Lord my God, tell me what you are to me. Say to my soul, I am your salvation. Say it so that I can hear it. My heart is listening, Lord; open the ears of my heart and say to my soul, I am your salvation. Let me run toward this voice and seize hold of you.

hymn

The Lord is My Light



The Taizé Community

standing

Sandra McCracken

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things, we will say together

We will feast and weep no more

hymn

We will not be burned by the fire

He is the Lord our God

We are not consumed by the flood

Upheld, protected, gathered up *chorus*

In the dark of night before the dawn

My soul, be not afraid

For the promised morning, oh how long

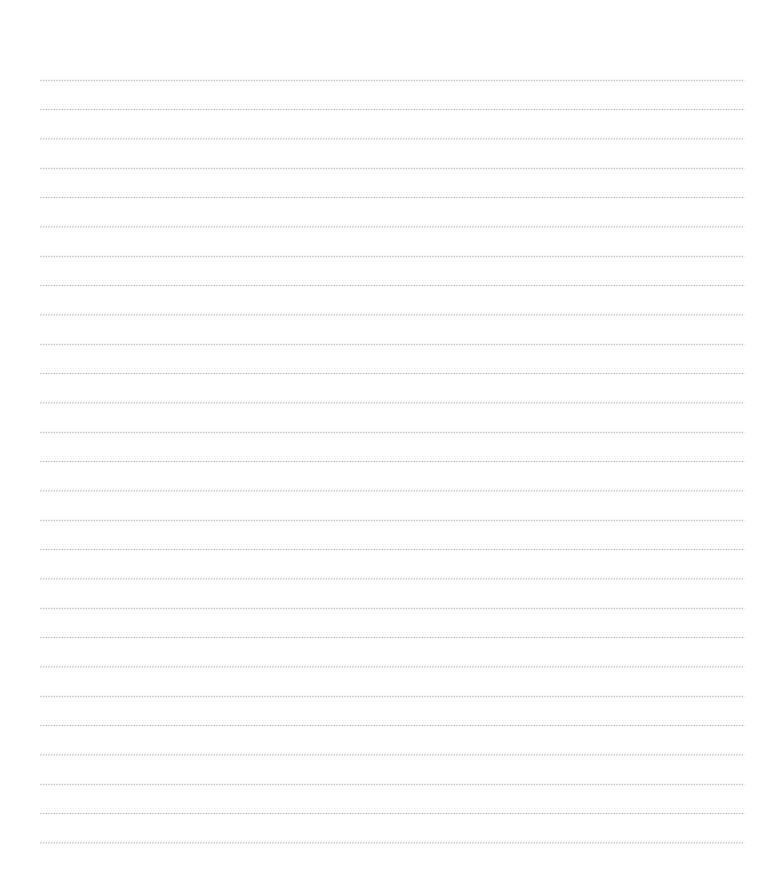
O God of Jacob, be my strength! chorus

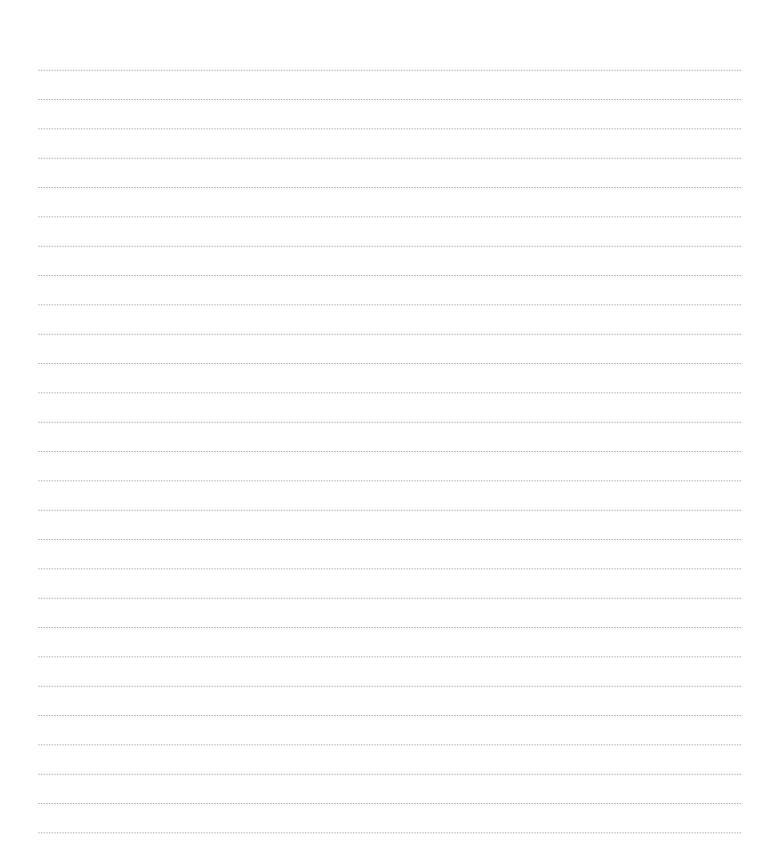
toast + happy hour

feasting

Every vow we've broken and betrayed You are the Faithful One And from the garden to the grave Bind us together, bring shalom. *chorus*

Notes.





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