

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
sunday, february 27  
9&11am 

# Rediscovering Jesus

This is my Son, the Beloved,  
listen to him!

*Luke 9:35*

Sermon for Sunday, February 27, 2022  
Pastor Charlie Berthoud | Luke 9:28-36

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On Transfiguration Sunday, the Sunday before Lent, we remember the curious narrative of the three disciples going up on a mountain with Jesus. Moses and Elijah appear, representing the law and the prophets.

But then it's just Jesus, with the three disciples. Then a voice from a cloud says: "This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!"

As we enter into Lent, moving toward Easter, my hope is that we listen to Jesus, but more than that, that we can be renewed as followers of Jesus, or in a word that we rediscover Jesus.

So if we're going to rediscover Jesus and grow anew in faith, we need to listen, to discuss, to learn.

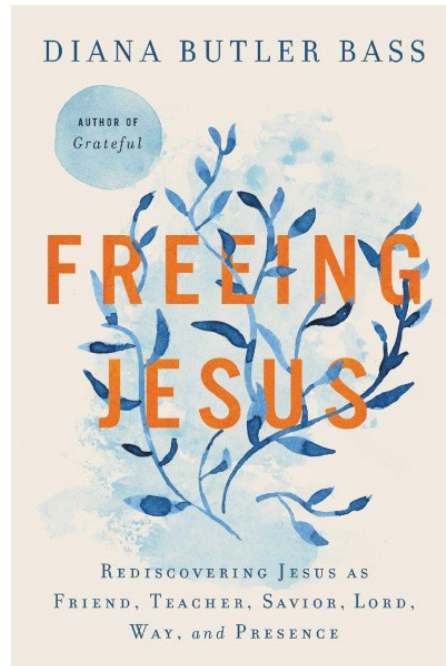
But like good Presbyterians, many of us are hesitant to talk or even think much about Jesus.

We just finished a six-week series called "Let's Talk About Sex", recognizing how we are generally hesitant to talk about sex and sexuality, even while recognizing how important it is.

Our Lenten sermon series is called "Let's Talk About Jesus" recognizing how we are generally hesitant to talk about Jesus, even while recognizing how important he is.

I hope we can start talking about Jesus and become more faithful Christians.

In her book *Freeing Jesus: Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence*, author Diana Butler Bass invites reader to ponder and rediscover Jesus.



She shares what she calls memoir theology, reflecting on the ways that she has known Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way, and Presence. As she acknowledges, there are many ways to know Jesus.

As we embark on this journey, some questions to ponder

- Where and when and how did you first experience Jesus?
- How might you be able to listen anew to Jesus this season?
- How might we together as a church be able to be renewed in our following of Jesus?

We have several opportunities to rediscover Jesus in this season of Lent.

In upcoming sermons, we will be reflecting on the words of Jesus in John, where Jesus describes himself as:

The light of the world

The bread of life

The good shepherd

And so on.

Maybe one of those images will help you rediscover and reclaim Jesus.

During Lent, we are inviting you to read the gospel according to John, with the help of the devotional, compiled by members of the congregation. Before you read, you could simply pray:

“Dear God, help me to listen to Jesus, to rediscover Jesus, to more faithfully follow Jesus.”

We made a commitment to be a Matthew 25 congregation, a wonderful initiative which inspires us to work on dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty—two excellent goals.

As we work on these, we need to remember that the core understanding of this initiative comes from Matthew 25, where Jesus says:

“I was hungry and you gave me something to eat.”

“I was a stranger and you welcomed me.”

“I was in prison and you visited me.”

We are encouraged to see Jesus in the faces of the people around us, especially people who are hurting.

Today we are blessed with wonderful music. God obviously speaks to us

in music. As we experience more wonderful music in Lent, we can ponder how tunes and texts can help us be more faithful followers of Jesus.

In Lent we ponder the cross. Maybe you can use a cross or an image of Jesus to help you rediscover Jesus in this season.

Lent begins on Wednesday. May it be a season of renewal and rediscovery. Amen.