

Scripture Reading

Joshua 20:1-9

Then the Lord said to Joshua:

"Tell the Israelites to designate the cities of refuge, as I instructed you through Moses, so that anyone who kills a person accidentally and unintentionally may flee there and find protection from the avenger of blood.

"When he flees to one of these cities, he is to stand in the entrance of the city gate and state his case before the elders of that city. Then they are to admit him into their city and give him a place to live with them.

If the avenger of blood pursues him, they must not surrender the one accused, because he killed his neighbor unintentionally and without malice aforethought.

He is to stay in that city until he has stood trial before the assembly and until the death of the high priest who is serving at that time. Then he may go back to his own home in the town from which he fled."

So they set apart Kedesh in Galilee in the hill country of Naphtali, Shechem in the hill country of Ephraim, and Kiriath Arba (that is, Hebron) in the hill country of Judah. 8 On the east side of the Jordan of Jericho they designated Bezer in the desert on the plateau in the tribe of Reuben, Ramoth in Gilead in the tribe of Gad, and Golan in Bashan in the tribe of Manasseh.

Any of the Israelites or any alien living among them who killed someone accidentally could flee to these designated cities and not be killed by the avenger of blood prior to standing trial before the assembly.

Sermon Resources

Empathy walks hand and hand with grace. As long as I guarded the gates of my life carefully, allowing only those who were like me into my relationships, my home, and my heart, I could find no reason to be ungracious. As long as I allowed hate, pain, fear, or pride to keep others at a distance, they remained strangers—different, and therefore a threat. Only by befriending neighbors, strangers, and enemies do we begin to understand and love them.

I am often asked how God can love every person. God loves every person because God knows every person. C.S. Lewis writes:

If you are a poor creature—poisoned by a wretched upbringing in some house full of vulgar jealousies and senseless quarrels—saddled, by no choice of your own, with some loathsome sexual perversion—nagged day in and day out by an inferiority complex that makes you snap at your best friends—do not despair. He [God] knows all about it. You are one of the poor whom He blessed. He knows what a wretched machine you are trying to drive. Keep on. Do what you can. One day (perhaps in another world, but perhaps sooner than that) he will fling it on the scrap heap and give you a new one. And then you may astonish us all—not least yourself: for you have learned your driving in a hard school.

Many of us find it easy to judge and hate because we've not made the effort to know and understand. We assign people to hell who've spent their lives trying to climb out. Our judgments aren't based on knowledge, but on ignorance and prejudice. Yet, in my experience, the more I know of individuals, the less I feel able to judge them and the more I am able to be gracious. Of course, sometimes we don't know what causes people to do what they do. And we never will. Still, empathy doesn't require specific knowledge, but the understanding that each of us fights our hidden demons.

— *If God Is Love*, Gulley and Mulholland

City Church Announcements

Flowers. Today's flowers are in honor of Mildred Lindholm. She is the mother of Pam Kermgard and Cynthia Cavanaugh, and the grandmother of Jennifer and Tiffany Webber

Attention All Children. Meet Pastor Denise and Pastor Cherise in the Narthex after Sabbath School to get your Palms in celebration of Jesus' Triumphal Entry. We will walk down the aisle during the opening Hymn.

Charles R. Hall. Services will be held today in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd at 3:00 p.m., followed by a reception.

Helene Hendershot. A memorial service will be held in the Chapel of the Good Shepherd, April 7 at 3:00 p.m., followed by a reception.

Listening Committee. Today, the special listening committee will be in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the 11 o'clock service to hear from you. This will be our second and last general session. A light box lunch will be provided to those who attend. The session will last no longer than two hours. For those who were not able to attend the session two weeks ago, we look forward to seeing you today.

Agape Feast/Communion. This quarter's Communion service will take place in the evening on Good Friday, April 6. This Agape Feast is family friendly and starts with dinner at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall and ends at 8:00 p.m. Please RSVP to the church office by Wednesday, April 4, if you plan to attend.

Easter Lilies. If you would like to sponsor one or more Easter Lilies for our Easter service, please place payment in a tithe envelope and indicate that the money is for Easter Lilies. The cost is \$8.00 per plant. Sponsored lilies may be taken home after the Easter worship service.

Easter Packets. These are available in the Narthex after the worship service. We ask for a \$2.00 donation per packet.

New Church Directory Photos. A photographer will be available after church in the Narthex, during the months of April and May, for members who would like to be included in the new City Church directory.

Easter Play. There is still room! Our church has been extended a special invitation from the Garden Grove SDA Easter Play on Saturday night, March 31st. Pastor Rudy Torres is reserving the front section especially for our members!!! Transportation will be provided by the A+ School bus, David Wilkens, and Juan Nuñez. The bus will leave around 6:30 p.m. from the front of the church. The bus ride and play are both free.

Today's cover photos are courtesy of Douglas Kasischke.

Upcoming Sermons

April 6	Agape Feast/Communion Service
April 7	Easter Service
April 14	Mitchell Henson
April 15	Organ Concert

Sunset tonight – 7:11 p.m. Sunset next Friday – 7:16 p.m.

Order of Worship

10:50 am – 12:10 pm

Prelude	"Jesus, Lover of My Soul" <i>arr. K.L. Smeal</i>
Morning Hymn	"All Glory, Laud, and Honor" No. 230
Entering of the Light	Tiara & Kyrie Rabello
Call to Worship	Mitchell Henson
	By the Word of the Lord were the Heavens made The starry hosts were formed by his mouth Continue your creation in us today, Oh God, as we worship.
Anthem	"A Hymn of Praise to the Creator" <i>E. Thiman</i>
Gifts of the Congregation	Michael Henson
Worship in Giving	
Morning Offering	Betty Glenn-Miller
Offertory	Julian Fielder, <i>solo</i>
Children's Sermon	Denise Kasischke
Greeting & Prayers of the Congregation	Mitchell Henson
Prayer Response	
	<i>Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me!</i> <i>Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me!</i> <i>Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me!</i> <i>Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me!</i>
Anthem	"How Can I Keep From Singing?" <i>arr. C. Courtney</i>
Scripture	Joshua 20:1-9 Lela Leong
Sermon	"The City of..." Mitchell Henson
Benediction	Mitchell Henson
Choral Benediction	"Lead Me, Lord" <i>S. Wesley</i>
Postlude	"And Can it Be That I Should Gain" <i>arr. K. L. Smeal</i>

Sabbath School Options

<u>Class</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Symbols/Leaders</u>
Beginners	0-3 yrs	Room 3	Elephant
Kindergarten	3-5 yrs	Room 4	Giraffe
Primary	6-9	Room 2	Eagle
Junior	10-13 yrs	Room 1	Lion
Teen	14-18 yrs	Room 10b	Fish
Prassó	General	Youth Center	
Armenian	General	Room 11	
Romanian	General	Room 13	
Pastor	General	Fellowship Hall	Mitchell Henson
SS Quarterly	General	Chapel	

Worship Options

<u>Option</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Sequence</u>
Sanctuary Service	Main Sanctuary	Every Sabbath
Romanian Service	Chapel	1st and 3rd Sabbaths
Armenian Service	Chapel	2nd and 4th Sabbaths

Activities

<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Sequence</u>
Bell Choir	Youth Center	Friday at 8:00 pm
Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room	Sabbath at 9:15 am
Pathfinders	GAMC Gymnasium	Tuesday at 6:45 pm
Sunshine/Jubilate Singers	Room 10b	Sabbath at Noon
Bible Study	Council Room	Monday at 7:00 p.m.
Marathon Clinic	Verdugo Park	Sunday at 7:00 a.m.

Church Directory

Pastors

Mitchell Henson, Senior Pastor
Denise Kasischke, Family & Children Ministries
Michael Quishenberry, Pastor of the Parish
Hovik Sarrafian, Armenian Senior Pastor
Vartkes Azadian, Armenian Associate Pastor
Constantin Balan, Romanian Senior Pastor

Officers

Head Elder	Douglas Schultz
Head Deacon	—
Head Deaconess	Eleanor Posner
Church Board Chair	Terry Bork
A+ School Board Chair	Colette Witt
Guest Choir Director	Julian Fielder
Organist	Kemp Smeal
Children's Choir Director	Lissie Quishenberry
Bell Choir Director	Ariel Quintana
Secretary	Victoria Lucero
Treasurer	Dean Vendouris
Church Clerk	Mindi Rüb
A+ School Principal	Jeanie Drake
Pathfinder Leader	Warren Dale

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.; Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

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A Year of Service



Glendale City Seventh-day Adventist Church

March 31, 2007