

James 3:1-12

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For we all stumble in many ways. And if anyone does not stumble in what he says, he is a perfect man, able also to bridle his whole body. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses so that they obey us, we guide their whole bodies as well. ⁴Look at the ships also: though they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. ⁷For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, ⁸but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and salt water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers, bear olives, or a grapevine produce figs? Neither can a salt pond yield fresh water.

Notes

Questions for Reflection & Discussion:

- 1. Of all the analogies James makes about our mouth, which one is most helpful for you?
- 2. Why is it universally so difficult to tame our tongues? How can we overcome this?
- 3. What action step could you take this week toward obedience to God in this area of your life?

Family Business

Upcoming:

- Sunday 5/11
- 8:45 am – Service / Sanctuary
 - 9:45 am – Sunday Morning Classes
 - 9:45 am – Service / Multi-Purpose Room
 - 11:00 am – Service / Sanctuary
- Monday 5/12
- 5:00 pm – Building and Grounds Meeting / Room 114
- Tuesday 5/13
- 6:30 pm – Men's Bible Study / Room 015
- Wednesday 5/14
- 6:00 pm – Adult Pickleball / Gym
 - 7:15 pm – Chancel Choir / Choir Room
- Thursday 5/15
- 11:00 am – Prayer Meeting / Chapel
 - 1:00 pm – Redemptive Remembering / Room 020
- Friday 5/16
- 12:00 pm – Women's TableTalk / Room 114

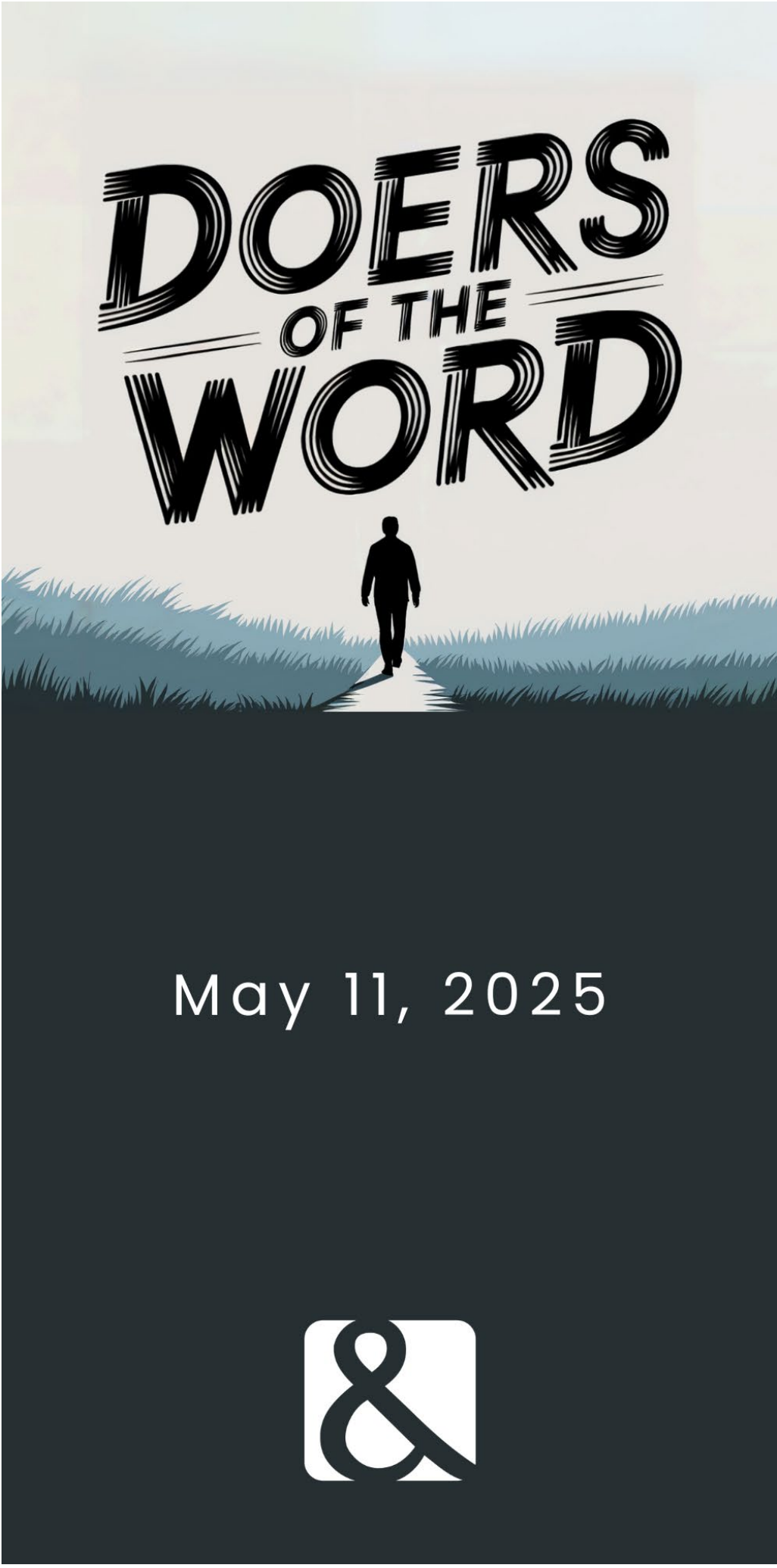
Happy Mother's Day!

Save the Date: Single Service Sunday on May 25th at 9:45 am!

Museum Trip: Save the date for Saturday, June 14th, to take a trip to the Nelson Atkins Art Museum in Kansas City! We are leaving in the morning and stopping for lunch before we experience a personalized tour at 1 pm, including learning more about the artists featured in one of our recent Pastor's Book Clubs, *Rembrandt in the Wind*. Contact Pastor Jamie or Courtney Pybas if you have any questions. Register on the website under the Events page.

Faith & the Arts Academy: If you have a passion for the arts, working with children, or simply want to serve our community, we invite you to consider volunteering at the Faith & the Arts Academy. We have various needs, from assisting with art activities to helping with registration and supervision. Your time and talents would be a tremendous blessing to our young participants. If you're interested in volunteering, please register on the website.

New to First & Calvary? We're glad you're here! Please pick up a gift bag to learn more about us at the exits. Please sign the Friendship Pad in your pew so we can connect. Kids are always welcome in worship! Worship bags are at each entrance. Parents may use the Baby Break Room or the nursery on the first floor. Children ages 3 through 3rd grade may join Worship and Wonder after the Children's Message—check in near the front left sanctuary exit.



The House of Prayer

Prelude

Call to Worship | Carolyn Loven Robert Carr

Leader: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.
All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You search out my path and my lying down
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Even before a word is on my tongue,
behold, O LORD, you know it altogether.
You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is high; I cannot attain it.
For you formed my inward parts;
you knitted me together in my mother’s womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.
My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.
Your eyes saw my unformed substance;
in your book were written, every one of them, the days that were formed
for me,
when as yet there was none of them.
How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them!
If I would count them, they are more than the sand.
I awake, and I am still with you.

*Opening Hymn

17 Praise the Lord! Oh Heaven's, Adore Him
Words: Paraphrase of Psalm 148 (alt. The Foundling Hospital Collection, London, 1796)
Music: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797

Confession of Sin

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought,
word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left
undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and
strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy
forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what
we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Hymn 817

Hear Our Prayer, Oh Lord
Words: Based on Psalm 143:1
Music: George Whelpton

Declaration of Forgiveness

The LORD is faithful in all his words,
and gracious in all his deeds.
The LORD upholds all who are falling,
and raises up all who are bowed down.
—Psalm 145:13-14, NRSV
Christian, be at peace and know you are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

Hymn 805

Glory be to the Father
Words: Gloria Patri
Music: Henry Greatorex

Invitation to Offering

Offertory | Chancel Choir

Proclamation of Service
Words and Music: Joseph Martin

*Doxology

Hymn 809

*Offering Prayer

Time for Children | Cathy Van Landuyt

Jesus Loves Me
Oh How I Love Jesus
Children who have checked into Worship & Wonder may be released after this time.

Scripture | James 3:1-12

See Scripture Panel
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon | Rev. Jamie Swope

Follow Jesus With Your Tongue

Confession of Faith | The Apostles’ Creed

Hymn No. 14

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution & Communion

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom
come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our
daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And
lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn

568 Take my Life and Let it be Consecrated
Words: Frances R. Havergal, 1874
Music: Henri A. César Malan, 1827

*Benediction

*Benediction Response

841 May the Grace of Christ Our Savior
Words: John Newton, 1799
Music: Corner’s Gesangbuch, 1631

*Postlude