

From the Pastor

November 2019
A Message from Pastor Sondra



Therefore, I urge you in view of God's mercy, to present your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God – this is your spiritual act of worship.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Romans 12: 1 - 2

I'm not a morning person. I mean ... I wake up slowly. I like to ease into the day. It takes me a little while to get my motor running – coffee, a walk, a shower. These are helpful in preparing me for the day ahead.

My husband, Tom, is a morning person. He wakes up, gets up, and is ready to face the day. His pattern is different than mine. Part of his pattern is to make and bring me a cup of coffee each morning. He is so sweet! And, maybe knows I need it!

I've always appreciated Paul's advice to the Romans ... his urging! Present yourself to the Lord! This is worship! It will keep you focused on God, not the world! You will know God's will ... God's desire ... God's plan for you!

I think Paul probably meant: do it every day! Whether you're a morning person or not ... whether you're in a joyous or chaotic time of your life ... whether your day ahead looks promising or full of challenges! Present yourself to the Lord!

One of my favorite writers, A.W. Tozer, offers similar insight:
*With a sacred expectation,
I look for God in ALL the circumstances of my day.*

Tozer, and the Apostle Paul, trusted that God would show up. In their writings and their witness, they urged others to watch for God, to wait for God, to prepare to receive what God will offer! This seems like a good reminder to all of us as we enter a season of Thanksgiving. As Christ's followers, we know that giving thanks is not confined to a day on the calendar. It is the essential, sacred work of offering ourselves to God every day. Giving thanks that God shows up.

May you offer yourselves to God everyday ... and with sacred expectation give thanks for God's transforming work in you.

Pastor Sondra