

Scriptures, Titles, and Word(s) to Ponder

April 27 – Sept 28, 2025

For the next 4 months and a bit, we're going to explore in greater depth in the context of our times the **9 Teachings of the Apostles** that we sing near the end of the worship service every Sunday morning. We've taken them from Paul's letter to the Galatians, commonly seen in the church as a manifesto of Christian freedom – freedom to live according to these values/virtues as they are integrated into the privilege and responsibility of being ambassadors of our Creator's forgiving and reconciling love in all our networks. The passage, in the New Revised Standard Version that we use as our pew bibles at Brentwood, is Galatians 5:22b-23a – “the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.”

At Brentwood, we have translated “self-control” as “self-composure,” another connotation of the Greek word *enkrateia* that Paul uses. That translation conveys both the privilege and responsibility of composing our lives to embody these qualities of contributing to the earth's well-being.

Integrated into our daily lives in all of our networks, the fruit of these teaching is a posture of blessing offered through forgiving and reconciling love. Alan Roxburgh and Roy Searle emphasize the importance of posture in their recent book, *Forming Communities of Hope in the Great Unraveling* (Cascade Books, 2025). They see posture as “a particular way of dealing with or considering something; an approach or attitude.” (p.84) We seek to mature as a community and as contributors to the welfare of our world by living this posture.

It is our prayer that these conversations will provide the space to reformulate our posture as a congregation and as contributors to that congregation's missioning.



This is the music for the song we sing near the end of every service on Sunday mornings at Brentwood. Feel free to use in any way you can imagine.

9 Teachings of the Apostles

Comp: Brian Fraser and Dan Reynolds
(Edits: Noah Franche-Nolan)

Love, joy, peace!

The first line of the musical score is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two measures. The first measure contains the lyrics 'Love, joy,' and the second measure contains 'peace!'. The melody is simple, with a half note for 'Love,' and a half note for 'joy, peace!'. The bass line provides a simple accompaniment with a half note for 'Love, joy,' and a half note for 'peace!'.

3
Pa - tience, kind - ness, ge - ne - ro - si - ty!

The second line of the musical score starts with a measure rest of 3 measures. The melody continues with a half note for 'Pa - tience,' and a half note for 'kind - ness, ge - ne - ro - si - ty!'. The bass line continues with a half note for 'Pa - tience,' and a half note for 'kind - ness, ge - ne - ro - si - ty!'.

5
Faith - ful - ness, gen - tle - ness,

The third line of the musical score starts with a measure rest of 5 measures. The melody continues with a half note for 'Faith - ful - ness,' and a half note for 'gen - tle - ness,'. The bass line continues with a half note for 'Faith - ful - ness,' and a half note for 'gen - tle - ness,'.

7
self com - po - sure!

Repeat 3 times

The fourth line of the musical score starts with a measure rest of 7 measures. The melody continues with a half note for 'self com - po - sure!'. The bass line continues with a half note for 'self com - po - sure!'. The line ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign. The instruction 'Repeat 3 times' is written above the final measure.

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Apr 27, 2025 – 1st Sunday after Easter

Sherwin Xie reading

Scriptures Psalm 103 – Refrain #1

God is giving and forgiving, every blessing, ever blessed

Galatians 5:13-25

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3

625 – Seek ye first the kingdom of God

634 – Will you come and follow me

694 – May the mind of Christ my Saviour

Sermon Title Considering the 9 Teachings of the Apostles

Word to Ponder Values

May 4, 2025 – 2nd Sunday after Easter - Communion

Lynn Dookie reading

Scriptures Psalm 23 – Refrain #1

The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#528 Jesus call us here to meet him
#534 All who hunger, gather gladly
#557 Shout for joy!

Sermon Title Love: Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Love

May 11, 2025 – 3rd Sunday after Easter – Mothers’ Day

Ryan Clarke reading

Scriptures Psalm 23 – Refrain #1

The Lord’s my shepherd, I’ll not want

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#815 New every morning is the love
#371 Love divine, all love excelling
#704 Teach me, Lord, to wonder

Sermon Title Love: Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Mothering

May 18, 2025 – 4th Sunday after Easter

Ben MacCrae preaching

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 46 – Refrain #2

Be still and know that I am God

Matthew 28:16-20

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#634 Will you come and follow me
#587 Called as partners in Christ's service
#590 We have this ministry

Sermon Title The Great co-Mission

Word to Ponder Ministry

May 25, 2025 – 5th Sunday after Easter

Sherwin Xie reading

Scriptures Psalm 98 – Refrain #1

*New songs of celebration render
to God who has great wonders done.*

John 15:1-11

**Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#63 – O sing a new song to the Lord
#655 – Give me oil in my lamp
#410 – Joyful, joyful we adore you**

Sermon Title Joy – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Joy

June 1, 2025 – 6th Sunday after Easter – Holy Communion

Lynn Dookie reading

Scriptures Psalm 98 – Refrain #1

*New songs of celebration render
to God who has great wonders done.*

John 15:1-11

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3

#528 – Jesus calls us here to meet him

#534 – All who hunger, gather gladly

#557 – Shout for joy!

Sermon Title Joy – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Joy

June 8, 2025 – Pentecost Sunday

Dialogue Sermon with Phil on GA

Ryan Clarke reading

Scriptures Psalm 104:24-34 – Refrain #1

*Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew all creation*

Acts 2:1-21

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 - v3
#531 Draw us in the Spirit's tether
#399 Spirit, Spirit of gentleness
#740 Make me a channel of your peace

Sermon Title A Spirited General Assembly

Word to Ponder Revitalizing

June 15, 2025 – Trinity Sunday

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 34 – Refrain #1

*Taste and see that God is good;
blessed are those who trust the Lord.*

John 14:25-31

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#732 – O day of peace that dimly shines
#727 – Let there be light
#726 – May the God of hope go with us every day

Sermon Title Peace – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Peace

June 22, 2025 – Proper 7

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 34 – Refrain #1

*Taste and see that God is good;
blessed are those who trust the Lord.*

John 14:25-31

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3

#736 For the healing of the nations

#386 Come down O Love divine

#737 Dona nobis pacem

Sermon Title Peace – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Peace

June 29, 2025 – Proper 8

Sherwin Xie reading

Scriptures Psalm 37:1-11 – Refrain #1

*O set your heart upon the Lord,
wait patiently for God.*

Ephesians 4:1-16

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#21 Set thy trust upon the Lord
#778 Lord you give the great commission
#472 We are God's people

Sermon Title Patience – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Patience

July 6 – Proper 9 – Holy Communion

Lynn Dookie reading

Scriptures Psalm 37:1-11 – Refrain #1

*O set your heart upon the Lord,
wait patiently for God.*

Ephesians 4:1-16

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#528 – Jesus calls us here to meet him
#534 – All who hunger, gather gladly
#557 – Shout for joy!

Sermon Title Patience – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Patience

July 13 – Proper 10 – Dialogue Sermon with Karen Dimock

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 19 – Refrain #2

*Let the heavens declare the glory of God,
the firmament show God's handiwork.*

Hebrews 11:1-3 & 8-16

**Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
10 God's glory fill the heavens
#647 In the bulb there is a flower
#434 For the beauty of the earth**

Note: Phil away

Sermon Title The Stories We Tell

Word to Ponder Stories

July 20 – Proper 11

Ryan Clarke reading

Scriptures Psalm 63:1-8 – Refrain #1

*Your love is more than life,
my lips shall give you praise.*

Luke 6:35-36

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#366 Jesus, thou joy of loving hearts
#692 Where charity and love prevail
#461 Be thou my vision

Sermon Title Kindness – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Kindness

July 27 – Proper 12

Sherwin Xie reading

Scriptures Psalm 63:1-8 – Refrain #1

*Your love is more than life,
my lips shall give you praise.*

Luke 6:35-36

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#631 Jesus' hands are kind hands
#321 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
#709 What does the Lord require of you?

Sermon Title Kindness – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Kindness

August 3 – Proper 13 – Holy Communion

Lynn Dookie reading

Scriptures Psalm 116 – Refrain #1

I know that my Redeemer lives.

Romans 15:14-21

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#528 – Jesus calls us here to meet him
#534 – All who hunger, gather gladly
#557 – Shout for joy!

Sermon Title Generosity – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Generosity

August 10 – Proper 14

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 116 – Refrain #1

I know that my Redeemer lives.

Romans 15:14-21

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3

#442 Speak, Lord, in the stillness

#663 God, whose giving knows no ending

#798 What gift can we bring

Sermon Title Generosity – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Generosity

August 17 – Proper 15

Ryan Clarke reading

Scriptures Psalm 22:22-31 – Refrain #1

*The great congregation their worship shall bring
and new generations God's praises will sing.*

Romans 10:5-17

**Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#324 Great is thy faithfulness
#680 Christ, of all my hopes the ground
#332 How great thou art**

Sermon Title Faithfulness – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Faithfulness

August 24 – Proper 16 – Dialogue with Grace Ji-Sun Kim

Sherwin Xie reading

Scriptures Psalm 22:22-31 – Refrain #1

*The great congregation their worship shall bring
and new generations God's praises will sing.*

Romans 10:5-17

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#675 Precious Lord, take my hand
#672 Jesus calls us, o'er the tumult
#670 Amazing grace

Sermon Title Faithfulness – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Faithfulness

August 31 – Proper 17

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 147:1-11 – Refrain #1

Praise the gracious God of love,

Hallelujah!

Matthew 11:25-31

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#748 Lord of all hopefulness
#560 Put peace into each other's hands
#399 Spirit, Spirit of gentleness

Sermon Title Gentleness – Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Gentleness

September 7 – Proper 18 – Holy Communion

Lynn Dookie reading

Scriptures Psalm 22:22-31 – Refrain #1

*Praise the gracious God of love,
Hallelujah!*

Matthew 11:25-31

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#528 – Jesus calls us here to meet him
#534 – All who hunger, gather gladly
#557 – Shout for joy!

Sermon Title Gentleness – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Gentleness

September 14 – Proper 19

Kayla Green reading

Scriptures Psalm 103 – Refrain #1

God is giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest.

Hebrews 10:23-25a

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3

#625 Seek ye first

#641 One more step along the world I go

#634 Will you come and follow me

Sermon Title Self-Composure -Initial Considerations

Word to Ponder Provocateurs

September 21 – Proper 20

Ryan Clarke reading

Scriptures Psalm 103 – Refrain #1

God is giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest.

Hebrews 10:23-25a

Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3

#644 May the mind of Christ my Saviour

#665 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song

#658 By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered

Sermon Title Self-Composure – Further Considerations

Word to Ponder Provocateurs

September 28 – Proper 21

Sherwin Xie reading

Scriptures Psalm 100 – Refrain #1

*All people that on earth do dwell,
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice*

Galatians 5:13-25

**Hymns Opening Chorus #471 – v3
#471 – We are one in the Spirit
#329 Thank you, O Lord of earth and heaven
#563 Let us talents and tongues employ**

Sermon Title The Teachings of the Apostles – A Review

Words to Ponder Fruit of the Spirit