## Meditations on selected Psalms by Lester Groom (10:50)

- ∞ Psalm 107:22 "Declare His works with rejoicing"
- ∞ Psalm 23:2 "Beside the still waters"
- ∞ Psalm 145:3 "His Greatness is unsearchable"

# First Sabbath Worship (11:00)

August 5, 2006

Welcome and Announcements

Norman Moll

# **Preparing to Hear the Word of God**

Preparation "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" (#H-104) Anna Page

The Call to Worship

Leader: Let us lift our hearts in praise to God!

People: How wonderful is your creation, O God, how blessed the passing of years.

Leader: Our thoughts are on you in this hour, for you have given us wonderful years to minister to those around us. Though circumstances change around us, our faith in you remains

unchanged.

People: How blessed we are to be here today.

Leader: Open our hearts and open our arms; open our eyes and open our minds. We join in worship to be united in song and in praise.

* Hymns of Praise	A Medley
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∞	"Bless the Lord, O My Soul"	No. C-10
~	"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"	No. C-60
∞	"Alleluia!"	No. C-63

#### Call to Confession

Leader: Brothers and Sisters in Christ, let us open lour lives to God's healing presence, putting away all that separates us from God and our neighbors. Let us confess to God whatever has wounded us, or brought injury to others, that we may receive mercy and become for each other, ministers of God's grace.

People: Merciful God, we confess that we are sinners. We have not always loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength; we have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we can be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Silence for personal confession

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives all our sins strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit lead us into eternal Life. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Response "Glory Be to the Father" No. H-660

### **Hearing the Word of God**

Children's Story "Daniel and His Friends" Norman Moll Meditation Hymn "We Praise Thee with Our Minds" No. H-642 Do Miracles of Healing Still Occur? "My Testimony" Mary Bukowiec

Dialogue

### Our Response to God

The Church Family at Prayer

Giving of Gifts

Offertory

"There Is a Balm in Gilead" (#H-475)

Health: God's Gift -- Our Sacred Trust (See below)

Congregation and Leader

Benediction Prayer (Psalm 91, adapted)

\*\*Postlude Meditation "Praise God!" (#H-695) Michael Burkhardt

Health: God's Gift – Our Sacred Trust Responsive Reading

Leader: Lord, you promised your people, the descendents of Israel,

People: "If you will diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD your God, and will do what is right in His sight, and will obey His commandments and keep all His statutes and especially His instructions for you related to healthful living, I, the one who brought you out of Egypt with a strong arm, will put none of these diseases on you, which I have brought upon the Egyptians; for I am the LORD who heals you!" (Exodus 15:26)

Leader: Lord we too, seek your healing from diseases.

People: We know that many of illnesses that befall us are indirectly the result of sin, but often they relate specifically to the lifestyle that we choose to live. We are rushed, we are stressed, we are fearful, we are impatient, we have bad habits – even addictions -- which are detrimental to our health and well being.

Leader: When Jesus walked this earth he described himself as the true door to the sheepfold. He likened Himself to the good shepherd, whose voice the sheep recognized and followed. This same Jesus said:

People: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." (John 10:7-18) We your sheep, long to have abundant lives, lives which allow us to be productive, to live disease-free, so as to be a witness to those around us of your plan to prosper your people.

<sup>&</sup>quot;C" denotes <u>Celebration</u>: <u>Songs for Renewal</u>

<sup>&</sup>quot;H" denotes SDA Hymnal

<sup>\*</sup>Congregation stands for hymns

<sup>\*\*</sup>Congregation is asked to remain seated during the Postlude Meditation

Leader: Your servant Paul likened our bodies to temples -- the place where God dwells. Paul called for us to eat, to drink and to live, all to God's GLORY.

People: What? Don't you know that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which dwells within you, who comes to you from God, and that therefore your body is not your own? For you were bought with a price, the infinite price of Christ' death on the cross. Therefore, glorify God in your body, and in your spirit which are God's." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20)

Leader: Lord we have seen today how you honored the commitment of four young men, Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, who risked their lives rather than adopt an unhealthy lifestyle. You helped them succeed, made them wise, so that even King Nebuchadnezzar was amazed. When compromise would have been easy—and even seemed expedient—they stood firm.

People: "Nebuchadnezzar in his rage and fury spoke and said, "So you won't worship my gods or bow before the golden image which I have set up. You have one more chance, and if you don't bow down, this very hour you will be thrown alive into the fiery furnace which I am about to order heated seven times hotter than it has ever been heated! Now tell me what god is able to deliver you from my hands?" (Daniel 3:13-15)

Leader: Then the three young men answered Nebuchadnezzar with the greatest respect:

People: Oh King, If it be His will, the LORD, Jehovah, whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and He will deliver us out of your hands, O King. But if it is not His will to save us, please be informed O King, that we will not serve your gods, nor worship the golden image which you have set up.

Leader: We have seen today how you have honored the commitment to healthful living of one of our own, Mary Bukoweic, and answered our prayers in her behalf.

People: We praise you and thank you, Dear God, for her healing!