Valleyview Community Church

June 28, 2020



For all events, ministries, & info visit

www.valleyviewcommunitychurch.ca

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**Sermon Notes**

**This Week at a Glance**

**Tuesday & Thursday:** Mid-Day Prayer (via Zoom video) (12-12:30pm)

**Table Talk Tuesday:** Zoom video hangout (6:30-7:30pm)

**Next Sunday:** The Grand Story: Recovery & Rebuilding – Ezra & Nehemiah

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But Ruth replied, “Don’t urge me to leave you or to turn back from you. Where you go I will go, and where you stay I will stay. Your people will be my people and your God my God. Where you die I will die, and there I will be buried. May the Lord deal with me, be it ever so severely, if even death separates you and me.” When Naomi realized that Ruth was determined to go with her, she stopped urging her.

**Ruth 1:16-18**



This summer we will be having outdoor parking lot services from 6-7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend in vehicles and to invite friends/family to join us for these drive-in style parking lot services over the summer months.

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**Table Talk Tuesdays**

**(6:30-7:30pm)**

Every Tuesday from 6:30-7:30pmpm we will be reviving our Table Talk Tuesdays via Zoom video chat. Join us for an opportunity to connect and hangout together.

Every Wednesday we will release a new episode on our new Tapestry podcast sharing stories from members of our church family about their journey with Jesus.

Track along each week at www.valleyviewcommunitychurch.ca/tapestry-podcast

TAPESTRY

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**The Grand Story: Ruth**

Time to Pass the Mic

**Parking Lot Worship Services**

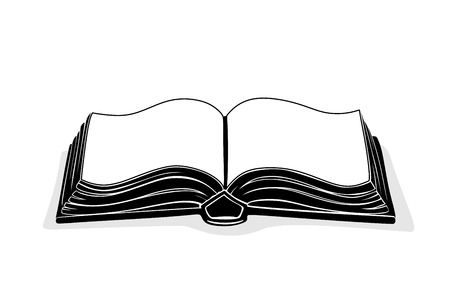
**Sundays (6:00-7:00pm)**

**Tapestry Podcast**

**New Episode Every Wednesday**

**The Grand**

**Story**



**Rev. Jason Tripp**

2891 Martin Rd. Blezard Valley, ON P0M 1E0

(705) 897-6200 / valleyviewsudbury@gmail.com

**Part of the Free Methodist Church in Canada**

**www.fmcic.ca**

**Imagine** knowing **love** that **heals** hearts, **mends** families & **cares** for community.

This love **flows** through lives committed to **Jesus.**

**Questions for Reflection & Discussion**

1. How does today’s message encourage and/or challenge you in your faith?
2. What did you learn from the message about the book of Ruth? How is the book more than a romantic love story, but a radical story of boundary pushing and redemption?
3. How is Ruth’s story a challenge to us to identify and “pass the mic” to individuals and people groups whose voices and stories are often silenced or discredited? Who might the Holy Spirit be nudging you to “pass the mic” to to listen learn and be reminded of the need for many diverse voices to contribute to the work of God’s redemptive and inclusive kingdom?

Today, we continue our journey through the Grand Story of Scripture as Sara Desforges preaches a message on the book of Ruth.

Ruth is more than a typical romantic story from ancient times. Rather, the book of Ruth is a radical story of redemption and rule breaking. The story of Ruth is radical and progressive in that it is the only book of the Bible where women speak more than men.

Naomi and Ruth push the boundaries of the patriarchal system in which they live and their lives remind us that the church continually needs to emulate Jesus in pushing the boundaries journeying from exclusion to embrace.

The voices of women, foreigners and the marginalized are all too often silenced today, just as they were in the days of Ruth and Naomi. The Good News of the Kingdom of God, however, is that everyone is given a voice and an opportunity to participate in God’s grand story of redemption.

Just as Boaz serves as the kinsmen-redeemer of Ruth and Naomi in the story, Jesus comes to bring redemption to the human race, restoring the image of God in all of creation.

In a culture where the dominant voices are often the loudest, the story of Ruth is a powerful and timely reminder that sometimes we are well served to pass the mic to listen and learn from those whose voices have been silenced. As we amplify those voices the Kingdom of God breaks in and is rendered visible in ways which bear witness to Christ’s all inclusive loving embrace. Who do you need to pass the mic to?

I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. **– John 10:16**

**The Grand Story: Ruth**

Time to Pass the Mic

**Questions for Reflection/Discussion**

1. What did you learn from this morning’s message? What encouraged you? What challenged you?
2. How does the act of forgiveness shift the power between people?
3. What does it mean to heap burning coals upon someone’s head? How do you know when it’s time to just heap hot coals on someone’s head?
4. What practical steps can you take to practice the upside down aikido forgiveness with someone?

This morning we wind down our Love over Fear series focusing on the theme of forgiveness.

In the world of martial arts Aikido is the most difficult to teach and learn because it is so counterintuitive. The power of aikido is from a strategic noncombative posture involving the ability to absorb and redirect combative force. Aikido, like forgiveness is difficult to learn and practice, because they involve relaxing when being threated and maintaining control and focus.

Much like the volatile and violent world in which Jesus lived in, we live in a world where it is easier and often more impulsive to ‘fight fire with fire’ and to respond in kind when we are threatened and attacked by others, and yet Jesus teaches us the upside down way of forgiveness. In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us the way of forgiveness and radical self-giving love which, although difficult and counterintuitive, is the way in which the world is ultimately healed and reconciled. The cross is the definitive revelation of the power and love of God and it is through forgiveness and love ultimately conquers over fear

**Sermon Notes**





**Generosity - eGiving now Available**

For those interested, eGiving is now available at VCC. All eGiving donations can be emailed to [**valleyviewfinancial@gmail.com**](mailto:valleyviewfinancial@gmail.com) with the following security question and answer:

**What church do I attend? valleyview**

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Thanks to all of today’s volunteers who serve in areas of passion and giftedness.





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