

WONDER-WORKING GOD

God works wonders! That is such good news. Better still is the fact that wonder-working is just the beginning of what God can do. God transforms us beyond ourselves.

Psalm 77 models this transformation from an impersonal to a personal relationship with God. It changes prayer from talking *about* God to talking *to* God. It replaces “I” with “Thou” and “me” with “Thee.”

Twenty I/me/my statements come in the first six verses of the psalm and highlight such self-absorption that there’s little room for God. Then verses 7-9 shift to a series of questions about God’s compassion, forgetfulness, and love—doubts that are set within the self-absorbed faith.

In response to doubt, things change: the psalm now looks outward, not inward. The psalm remembers what God has done for God’s people in the past, instead of dwelling on what God is not doing right now. And rather than speak about God in the third person, the psalmist starts speaking to God directly: “Your way, O God, is holy”; “With your strong arm you redeemed your people”; “You are the God who works wonders.”

No longer a litany of personal complaint, the psalm becomes a conversation with God about God’s action in the past. This is the stuff of biblical faith: to set aside self in favor of God. There’s not another word about what God might do now for you or me; there’s instead a remembering of who God has been and who God is.

So we learn what it means to turn from talking to ourselves about ourselves to speaking words of worship to God: “You are the God who works wonders.” For people of faith, this is more than enough.

—Chris Bowman, pastor
Oakton Church of the Brethren
Vienna, Virginia

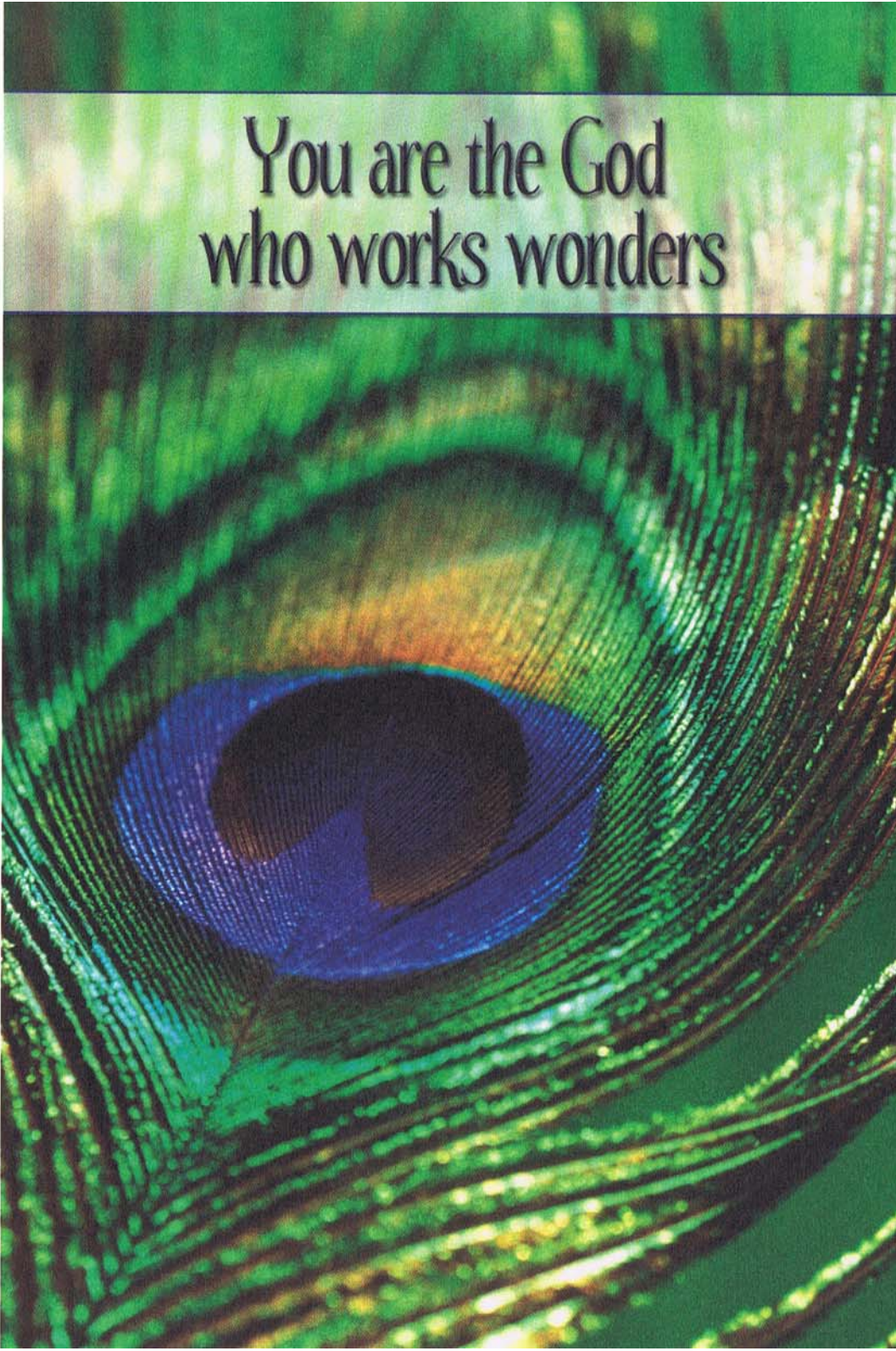
Text for Today

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 (14), *NRSV*

I will call to mind the deeds of the LORD; I will remember your wonders of old. I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds. Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God? **You are the God who works wonders**; you have displayed your might among the peoples. With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.



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You are the God
who works wonders



Sheldon Church of the Brethren
 David Loveall, Pastor
 Ministers - All Members
 June 27, 2010
 9:30 a.m. Worship
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



NOTE: The red hymnal will be used today, unless otherwise noted.

GATHERING MUSIC

GREETINGS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL DAYS

PRELUDE / LIGHT CANDLES

*CALL TO WORSHIP **June Memory Verse:** Know that a man is not justified by observing the law, but by faith in Jesus Christ. So we, too, have put our faith in Christ Jesus that we may be justified by faith in Christ and not by observing the law, because by observing the law no one will be justified. Galatians 2:16 (NIV)

* GATHERING HYMN #410 *Purer In Heart, O God*

*INVOCATION (Psalm 77)

One: Come, let us call to mind the workings of our God.
All: *Let us meditate on what God has done.*
One: God's way is holy. What god is so great as our God?
All: *Let us worship the God of wonders.*
One: God has led us through seas and terrors, and brought us safe.
All: *Let us celebrate God's presence with us, even now.*
One: Come, let us worship God.

PRAISE HYMN #582 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* (blue hymnal)

CHILDREN'S TIME (Gathering Song: *Jesus Loves the Little Children*)
"Raising Lazarus"

OFFERTORY STATEMENT

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*DOXOLOGY #119 (blue hymnal)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER HYMN #232 *Spirit Of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

PASTORAL PRAYER

SCRIPTURE Galatians 5:1,13-15

MESSAGE "Beyond the Door Knob"

PRAYER OF BLESSING ON THE WORD

*CLOSING HYMN #260 *How Firm A Foundation*

*BENEDICTION

*THREEFOLD AMEN #382 (blue hymnal)

* - *Please Stand, if you are able*

SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, June 27:

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Message | Pastor David Loveall |
| Children's Message | Pastor David Loveall |
| Music | Donna Brinkman |
| Ushers | Mark Bilsland and Scott Maggert |
| Adult Sunday School | Restart after Labor Day |
| Children's Sunday School | Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox |

SERVING THE CONGREGATION SUNDAY, July 4:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| Message | Pastor David Loveall |
| Children's Message | Marcene Cox |
| Music | Marcene Cox |
| Ushers | Mark Bilsland and Alan Cox |
| Adult Sunday School | Restart after Labor Day |
| Children's Sunday School | Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox |

OUTREACH MINISTRIES



Haitian Ministry directed by Rev.
Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier.
www.unitedchristiansinternational.org

2009 CHURCH OFFICERS

Moderator
Linda Adams

Deacons
Clarence & Rhelma Evans
Linda Adams & Jo Rolston

Clerk
Jo Rolston

Treasurer
Sandi Cox

Adult Sunday School Teachers
Linda Adams
Donna Brinkman
Alan Cox
Marcene Cox
Scott Maggert
Sally Young

Children's Message
Marcene Cox

Children's Sunday School
Ann Maggert and Sandi Cox

Church Facility Trustee
Scott Maggert

Church Sign
Ross Cox family

Custodial Care
Members take monthly turns

Farm Trustee
Ross Cox

Fellowship Time
Clarence & Rhelma Evans

Lawn Care
Jed Cox
Ross Cox

Messenger Agent
Donna Brinkman

Ministerial Committee
Marcene Cox
Ross Cox
Rhelma Evans
Jo Rolston

Nominating Committee
Ann Maggert
Sally Young

Outreach & Evangelism
Alan Cox
Marcene Cox
Sally Young

Parsonage Committee
Ann Maggert

Pianists
Donna Brinkman
Marcene Cox
Jill Dykstra
Teri Kelderman
Lynn Rolfsmeier

Special Music
Marcene Cox

Sunday School Superintendent
Jo Rolston

Ushers
Mark Bilsland
Alan Cox
Scott Maggert

OUR CHURCH

Worship Service 9:30am
Christian Education (Sept.-May) .10:50 am

Communion
1st Sunday of Each Month

The Sheldon Church of the Brethren
3011 Marsh Ave
Sheldon, Iowa 51201
(712) 324-3842

Email: pastor@sheldonbrethren.org

Web Addresses:

The Denomination:
www.brethren.org

Northern Plains District:
www.northernplainsdistrict.com

The Church:
www.sheldonbrethren.org
www.worship.sheldonbrethren.org

Birthdays for June

Anniversaries

02 - Don & Joyce Adkins - 60th Anniv.

Birthdays

5- Teri Kelderman

Many happy returns of the day of thy birth. May sunshine and gladness be given and may the Dear Father prepare thee on earth for a beautiful birthday in heaven.

Church Events

Welcome!

Welcome to all members and guests. You came to worship, go now to serve! You've been blessed by God's love, go now to share it!

Adult Sunday School

We have appreciated your past attendance and participation in Adult Sunday School! We express our thanks to the many people who guided discussions and those who participated in the discussions. We look forward to your continued support when we resume after Labor Day weekend. Have a great summer!

Devotional

The July-August *Upper Room* devotionals are on the back table. Please take one for your daily devotions.

Reminders

- 1) If you have not checked your mailbox for awhile, please do so!
- 2) Continue to bring your old and discarded shoes to put in the box at the back of the sanctuary so Northwest Enterprises can process them for Soles 4 Souls. They are committing 1.2 million pairs of shoes to Haitian victims.

Thank you

- 1) Thank you to the six ladies who helped clean the church for the Glessner Family Reunion last week. A special thanks to Jed Cox who came to do the vacuuming! Many hands do make quick work to clean the church. A janitor is needed for July and August. Please sign up for that responsibility.
- 2) A special thanks to Sally Young for planting the flowers in front of the church sign.

Community

Summer - Sheldon Farmers' Market at Pamida. Mondays from 4:30-6:30 pm and Fridays 11 am-1pm.

July 1-2 - 8 pm and July 3 at 2 pm Sheldon High School Summer Theatre - "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory".

July 2 - Village Northwest Unlimited's Independence Day celebration. Food stands open at 5:30 pm. Celebration Iowa Singers and Jazz band will perform. Fireworks will start at 9:50 pm.

Those Who Need Our Prayers

Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. - Romans 12:12 (NIV)



1. Pastor David Loveall is slowly recovering from his back surgery of June 4.
2. Muriel Loveall's eye continues to improve, but may take up to a year to be at its best.
3. Jeannette Grove at Fieldcrest Assisted Living, 2501 East 6th St. Apt. #111. Visit her, call her at 324-0028, or send her a card.
4. Jennifer Caldwell, daughter of Linda Adams, who needs prayer support.
5. Julie Fisher, daughter of Clarence and Rhelma Evans, who has thyroid cancer.
6. Ann Evans and Rev. John Elder who have cancer.
7. Matt Pruin and Darla Vaandrager of Sheldon who have brain cancer.
8. Our congregation and children, may all continue to grow in the Lord.
9. Living Peace Church, Sioux City. May its ministry be continually blessed.
10. UCI - Jean-Jean & Kristie Mompremier's ministry in Haiti.
11. Lost Brothers and Sisters. May we minister unto and lead by example.
12. Those Serving in the Military. Keep them from harm and danger.

SERMON NOTES of Sunday, June 27, 2010

"Beyond the Door Knob"

Scripture: Galatians 5:1,13-15

