

Prayer of the Holy Spirit

Good Morning Friends!

We concluded our season focused on Sharing Our God Story and we move from comfort zones into life intersections sharing faith, offering prayer, and gathering hope in all we meet. Our new series walks us with the prophet Jeremiah for the next few weeks. The Readings from Jeremiah are scheduled in this section of the Lectionary for year C. We will journey with the prophet Jeremiah during a time of exile and encounter the familiar imagery of God as the Potter who can reshape and remake us, making us vessels of living water ready for a brighter tomorrow.

“Jeremiah was a prophet...” Well, that’s how the first line of that Three Dog Night song actually started, but the rest of the band didn’t like it. So Jeremiah became a bullfrog in the nonsensical song that became a hit in the 1970’s. However, that first line wasn’t so random.

Bullfrog groups are called “choruses” because of their loud croaking. And prophets are called to be a mouthpiece, speaking up and speaking out in order to bring awareness to life lived without careful consideration of the consequences of our actions.

How are we called to be prophets in the places where we find ourselves?

Pottery was commonly used for many things in the ancient world. The imagery would have been readily available, as common objects holding larger truths.

Jeremiah himself, like most prophets, is a common person with uncommon vision...“containers” of truths that must be poured out (cannot be “contained”) for the sake of the people.

In this week’s scripture, the use of the reference to “womb” is a symbol of the container where God formed the prophet for this purpose. And then the prophet’s “mouth” becomes the vessel through which God will connect with God’s people once again.

God formed each one of us in a container to be a container through which God pours God’s word and love. <MONOLOGUE>

Let us welcome four persons who are committing to serve God and this community, known as Saint James United Methodist Church.

<move to LITURGY FOR NEW MEMBERS >