



Pastor's Corner

January 2012

To the leader. Of David. A Psalm.
I waited patiently for the Lord;
he inclined to me and heard my cry.
He drew me up from the desolate pit,
out of the miry bog,
and set my feet upon a rock,
making my steps secure.
He put a new song in my mouth,
a song of praise to our God.
Many will see and fear,
and put their trust in the Lord.

Happy are those who make
the Lord their trust,
who do not turn to the proud,
to those who go astray after false gods.
You have multiplied, O Lord my God,
your wondrous deeds and your thoughts towards us;
none can compare with you.
Were I to proclaim and tell of them,
they would be more than can be counted.
Psalm 40:1-5 (NRSV)

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!!!!!!!!!

In 1983 the music group U2 released an album called "War". The first track on the album is "Sunday, Bloody Sunday". It is a song about the violence in Northern Ireland that was raging at the time. The violence seemed to be never ending. So, the song's famous refrain that keeps ringing in your head long after it is over is "How long? How long must we sing this song?" How long would they have to endure the pain, suffering, and uncertainty that seemed to come with each day?

Those are questions that we have all had at one time. How long will I have to endure this painful episode in my life? If only I knew when and how this will all end. How long must I sing this song?

Well, the album continues and the questions that U2 asked in "Sunday, Bloody Sunday" seem to go unanswered. Some of the questions seem to keep resurfacing. Will they or we ever get an answer to our questions?

It is then on the final track of album, "40", that this question is answered. You may have guessed it, but the song "40" is a paraphrase of Psalm 40. God has not forgotten. We will not need to sing our sad songs endlessly. For God has given and will continue to give us a new song in his Son, Jesus Christ. God hears all of our songs and gives us a new one to sing in the midst of adversity. It is the song of his Son coming into the world, an event we just finished celebrating, but really the celebration of God giving us his Son never ends. It is the new song that sounds like this: "Do not be afraid! For I bring you good news of great joy for all people. To you this day is born in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord." This song of the angels to the shepherds is our new song. For the Lord always acts to draw us up out of the pit again and again.

As we begin this new year, may we begin it with the new song written on our hearts and minds each day. And, may this song fill us with hope all year!

God's blessings for a wonderful month of January and a grace filled 2012!

In Christ,

Pastor Matt

