

Sermon Notes

"There was a whole spiritual dimension to Mr. Rogers' work in the television business to be inclusive. He did this without ever identifying himself as a minister. He didn't wear a collar. He wore a sweater. And he preached in that context in a way more effective than anyone I've ever seen, because it wasn't a sermon like an oratorical thing. It was a communication right into their hearts." -Rev. George Wirth

Called to Preach - Luke 4:16-19 - ¹⁶ When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

Jesus Spoke Up for Children - Mark 10:13-16 - ¹³ People were bringing little children to Jesus to have him touch them; but the disciples rebuked them. ¹⁴ When Jesus saw this, he was indignant. He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, anyone who will not receive the kingdom of God like a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took the children in his arms, placed his hands on them and blessed them.

What Do You Do with the Mad that You Feel? by Fred Rogers

What do you do with the mad that you feel when you feel so mad you could bite;
when the whole wide world seems oh, so wrong, and nothing you do seems very right?
What do you do? Do you punch a bag? Do you pound some clay or some dough?
Do you round up friends for a game of tag, or see how fast you go?
It's great to be able to stop when you've planned a thing that's wrong,
and be able to do something else instead, and think this song:
I can stop when I want to, can stop when I wish. I can stop, stop, stop any time.
And what a good feeling to feel like this, and know that the feeling is really mine,
know that there's something deep inside that helps us become what we can.
For a girl can be someday a woman, and a boy can be someday a man.

"I am tired of hearing people who long ago set aside the concerns of childhood telling everybody what children really need. I'll tell you what children need. They need adults who will protect them from the ever-ready molders of their world." -Mr. Rogers

Righteous Anger - Matthew 21:12-16 - ¹² Then Jesus entered the temple and drove out all who were selling and buying in the temple, and he overturned the tables of the money changers and the seats of those who sold doves. ¹³ He said to them, "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer'; but you are making it a den of robbers." ¹⁴ The blind and the lame came to him in the temple, and he cured them. ¹⁵ But when the chief priests and the scribes saw the amazing things that he did, and heard the children crying out in the temple, "Hosanna to the Son of David," they became angry ¹⁶ and said to him, "Do you hear what these are saying?" **Jesus said to them, "Yes; have you never read, 'Out of the mouths of infants and nursing babies you have prepared praise for yourself?'"**

Ministering to the Least of These - Matthew 25:31-40 - ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, **'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'**

How is God calling you to preach?

For whom is God calling you to speak?

Things I would like to remember from today's sermon: _____

