**Are You Ready for a Rainy Season?**

Mark 10:35-45

22nd after Pentecost; October 21, 2018

**你准备好迎接雨季吗？**

**马可福音10：35-45**

**五旬节后第22个主日：2018年10月21日**

**Text: Mark 10:35-45**

35James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” 36And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” 37And they said to him, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” 38But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” 39They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; 40but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

41When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. 42So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 43But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, 44and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. 45For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.”

**马可福音10：35-45**

**35**西庇太的儿子雅各、约翰，来到耶稣跟前，对他说：“老师，我们无论向你求甚么，愿你为我们作成。” **36**耶稣说：“要我为你们作甚么？” **37**他们说：“在你的荣耀里，让我们一个坐在你的右边，一个坐在你的左边。” **38**耶稣说：“你们不知道你们求的是甚么。我喝的杯，你们能喝吗？我受的洗，你们能受吗？” **39**他们说：“能。”耶稣说：“我喝的杯，你们固然要喝；我受的洗，你们也要受。 **40**只是坐在我的左右，不是我可以赐的，而是　神预备赐给谁，就赐给谁。”**41**其他十个门徒听见了，就向雅各、约翰生气。 **42**耶稣把他们叫过来，对他们说：“你们知道各国都有被尊为元首的统治他们，也有官长管辖他们。 **43**但你们中间却不要这样；谁想在你们中间为大的，就要作你们的仆役， **44**谁想在你们中间为首的，就要作大家的奴仆。**45**因为人子来，不是要受人服事，而是要服事人，并且要舍命，作许多人的赎价。”

**Reflection 反思**

I begin with a story. A well-known psychotherapist Donald Meichenbaum who taught at Waterloo University told of the time his car was struck by lightning while he was driving. Once he was safe at home, he began to share his ordeal with his teenage son, expecting at least some degree of sympathy. Instead his son interrupted, “Dad, let’s go buy a lottery ticket. They say the chances of being hit by lightning are like the chances of winning the lottery.”

我先讲一个故事。在滑铁卢大学任教的著名心理治疗师Donald Meichenbaum

讲述了他开车时被闪电击中的情景。当他安全地回到家里的时候，他就开始对他十几岁的儿子简述这段痛苦的经历，期望至少有某种程度的同情。相反，他的儿子打断了他的话，并说：“爸爸，我们去买一张彩票吧。他们说，被闪电击中的几率和彩票中奖的机会差不多。“

I thought about this story while I was looking for a place to live in Vancouver. There is the implication that one needed to be struck by lightning to gain a winning ticket or vice versa. Contrary to anyone’s wishes to become a millionaire, recently the weather in Vancouver has been good, too good for a chance of being hit by lightening. In the meantime during my search for a house, the song, “If I had a million dollars,” became my theme song. While I was singing the song, I realized that even if I had a million dollars, I couldn’t buy a house in Vancouver. This an unusual place to live in.

当我想在温哥华找个地方住的时候，我想到了这个故事。言外之意是你需要被闪电击中

才有可能获得一张中奖票，反之亦然。与任何人想成为百万富翁的愿望相反，最近温哥

华的天气很好，好的很难被闪电击中。与此同时，在我寻找房子的过程中，“如果我有

一百万美元”这首歌成了我的主题曲。当我唱这首歌的时候，我意识到即使我有一百万美元，我也买不起温哥华的房子。这不是一个寻常的居住的地方。

Let’s turn our focus to today’s gospel reading. In a way I am with James and John, the sons of Zebedee. I also have a bit of Meichenbaum’s self-absorbed teenage son who often thinks only of his own perspective of wishes and stories. According to the story in the bible James and John say to Jesus, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” In return Jesus politely asks, “What is it you want me to do for you?” They respond, “Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.”

让我们把注意力转向今天的福音阅读。在某种程度上，我和西庇太的儿子雅各和约翰有类似之处。我也像Meichenbaum那样也有一个只顾自己的十几岁的儿子，他经常只考虑自己的愿望和经历。根据圣经中的故事，雅各和约翰对耶稣说：“老师，我们无论向你求甚

么，愿你为我们作成。” 耶稣礼貌的回应说：“要我为你们作甚么？”他们说：“在你的荣

耀里，让我们一个坐在你的右边，一个坐在你的左边。”

At this point we should recognize the need to know the context of the story. A month ago, we thought about Jesus’ question: “Who do you say that I am” (Mark 8:29). This is the context in which Jesus started his journey from Galilee to Jerusalem where the crucifixion is waiting for him. At that time Jesus said to his disciples: “I must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again” (Mark 8:31). But the disciples wished Jesus to be a Messiah who destroy all their enemies.

在这一点上，我们应该需要了解故事的背景。一个月前，我们提到耶稣所问的问题问题：“你们说我是谁？”(马可福音8：29)。这就是耶稣开始从加利利到耶路撒冷的

旅程的的背景，要耶稣死在十字架上的人正在耶路撒冷等着他呢。那时，耶稣对门

徒说：“人子必须受许多苦，被长老、祭司长和经学家弃绝、杀害，三天后复活。”

(马可福音8：31)。门徒却希望耶稣是一个弥赛亚，能毁灭所有仇敌。

Now, in today’s scripture James and John ask for the best seats beside Jesus in his coming glory. Had they not been listening and learning? Actually, today’s encounter is yet another episode in Jesus’s ongoing struggle to teach disciples about building the kin-dom of God in their midst. To the disciples misunderstanding about the kin-dom of God, Jesus expresses his frustration: “You do not know what you are asking.” He continues, “Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” (38) Here again Jesus predicts his passion in a metaphor related to the last supper: “Are you able to drink the cup that I drink?” Jesus invites his disciples back then and us now to join his ministry through the sacrament of Communion. To the request about the best seats, Jesus asks them whether they would “be baptised with the baptism that he is baptised with.” Jesus talks about two sacraments meaning God’s free given gifts - in Protestant traditions, the sacraments of Baptism and Communion.

现在，在今天的经文中，雅各和约翰要求在耶稣即将的荣耀里把旁边最好的座位给他们。难道他们不是一直作为耶稣的门徒而聆听和学习吗？事实上，今天的遭遇是耶稣

不断努力教导门徒如何在他们中间建立神的家族关系的另一段故事。门徒们的误解，使耶稣表达了他的沮丧：“你们不知道你们求的是甚么。我喝的杯，你们能喝吗？我受的洗，你们能受吗？”（38）。耶稣在这里再次预言他对最后一顿晚餐比喻的热情：“我喝

的杯，你们能喝吗？“耶稣邀请当时的门徒们和现在的我们一起通过分享圣餐而加入到他的事工中。对于关于最好的座位的要求，耶稣问他们是否会“我受的洗，你们能受吗？”

耶稣谈到了两种圣礼，在新教传统中意味着神免费赠送的礼物 - 受洗和圣餐。

Living in Vancouver I am often surprised to see big trees making tree canopies around our church. Roadside tree branches from both sides of the street meet in midair and form a big canopy or tunnel. This is not that common in Ontario, but in Vancouver everywhere we can see these green canopies. In fact, according to Treepedia, “a project based out of MIT and in collaboration with the World Economic Forum, Vancouver holds the highest Green View Index compared to other major cities across the world at 25.9%.” We should be proud of this encouraging news. <http://senseable.mit.edu/news/pdfs/20170104_MetroNews-Vancouver.pdf>

住在温哥华，我经常惊讶地看到大树的树冠围绕着我们的教会。街道两侧的路边树枝在半

空中相遇，形成一个大的树冠或隧道。这在安大略省并不常见，但在温哥华到处都

可以看到这些绿色的檐篷。事实上，根据Treepedia一个由麻省理工学院(MIT)发起并与世界经济论坛(World Economic Forum)合作开展的项目指出：与世界其他主要城市相比，

温哥华的绿色景观指数最高，为25.9%。我们应该为这个鼓舞人心的消息感到骄傲。http：/senbayle.mit.edu/news/pdfs/20170104\_MetroNews-温哥华。

I am wondering why Vancouver is such a blessed place that we can see green canopies everywhere? My guess is rain. What do you think? Vancouver is called a rainforest. I haven’t experienced a rainy season yet but I am preparing for it. The reason I am talking about rain is that the main element of baptism is water, the source of life that nourishes all living creatures. In this regard, the Psalmist says, “Beside still waters, God restores my soul” (Psalm 23:2-3).

我想知道为什么温哥华是一个如此幸运的地方，我们可以看到到处都是绿色的檐篷？我猜是下雨。你认为如何?温哥华被称为雨林。我还没有经历过雨季，但我正在为此做准备。我谈论雨的原因是，洗礼的主要部分是水，它是滋养所有生物的生命之源。在这方面，

诗篇的诗人说：“在可安歇的水旁，他使我的灵魂苏醒。“(诗篇23：2-3)。

In the creation story, in the beginning of time as we know it, God made all creation with water and the water nourished the land to bear fruit. God led Israel out of slavery through the waters into the freedom of the Promised Land. In the life of Jesus, he was nurtured in the waters of Mary’s womb and baptized by John in the River Jordan. Jesus lived the life of waters flowing into the lower social levels to give life. Water has several dimensions, particularly a spiritual aspect.

在造物的故事中，在我们所知道的时间之初，上帝用水创造了所有的受造物，水滋养了

土地，使之结出果实。神带领以色列人从水中脱离奴役，进入应许之地的自由。在耶稣的生命中，他在马利亚的子宫里受养，并在约旦河里受约翰的洗礼。耶稣活在水的生命中，流进较低的社会层面，以给予生命。水有多个维度，特别是精神层面。

Here we again come across Jesus’ shocking therapy to disciples requesting the best seats when Jesus holds power; he reminds them about the symbol of water in baptism. Water flows always to lower places and gives itself to nurture all living beings. Many of us are baptised but we find ourselves often coveting the best of the lot, the top spot, the elite place recognized by society as the best. Indeed this is part of the human condition. We attempt to explain our wishes for the best in number of ways. We make outlandish demands. In a way we human beings seem to have Zebedee DNA in our genes. We are sons and daughters of Zebedee.

在这里，我们看到当门徒们要求最好的位置的时候，耶稣再次对门徒使用的震惊治疗；

他提醒他们洗礼中的水的象征。水总是流向较低的地方，并滋养所有的生物。我们中

的许多人都受过洗礼，但我们发现自己常常羡慕最好的，最高的位置，被社会公认

为最好的精英的地方。事实上，这是人类状况的一部分。我们试图用多种方式来解释我们对最好的祝愿。我们提出奇怪的要求。在某种程度上，我们人类的基因中似乎含有西庇太的DNA。我们是西庇太的儿女。

We know now who our mayor and councillors, commissioners for parks and recreation and school trustees in our city are after yesterday’s municipal election. I hope they heed Jesus’ wisdom: “Whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant.” Jesus may say to them, “Look at the trees how they grow.” “Look at the water; it finds always the lower places.”

经过昨天的选举，我们现在可以知道我们城市的市长和市政府的议员、公园娱乐管委员和学校受托人是谁了。我希望他们听从耶稣的智慧：谁想在你们中间为大的，就要作

你们的仆役。“耶稣也可能对他们说：“看树是怎样长的。” “看看水，它总往较低的地方流淌。”

As we look at ourselves, we may see ourselves as Zebedee’s sons and daughters; we may often think only of our own perception of stories. We live in this human condition. In this context, the wisdom of Henri Nouwen, founder of L’Arche Daybreak in Richmond Hill, Ontario, may be helpful, “Only those who face their wounded condition can be available for healing and so enter a new way of living.” Even though we live with limitations, when we are honest with ourselves about our condition, we can begin the journey toward wholeness. We are becoming whole as we remember our baptism and share Jesus’ cup through Communion. In remembering that water flows always to lower places and that, like Jesus, we can be in a position to serve at least some of the time and not be served all the time, we will become whole: We are not far from salvation. Now I think I am ready for embracing a rainy season. How about you? Thanks be to God for the wisdom. Amen.

当我们审视自己的时候，我们可能会把自己看作西庇太的儿女；我们常常只想到我们自己对故事的看法。我们生活在人类的环境中。在这种环境下，安大略省列治文山的L‘Arche DayBreak（阿切社区-非盈利社区服务组织）创始人Henri Nouwen的智慧可能对我们会有

所帮助：“只有那些受伤的人才能得到医治，因此才能进入一种新的生活方式。”即使我们

生活在有限的环境中，当我们诚实面对自己的时候，我们就可以开始迈向完整的旅程。

在我们记得我们的洗礼，并通过圣餐分享基督的杯的时候，我们会成为完整。记住，水总

是流向较低的地方，就像耶稣一样，我们可以至少在一段时间是服事人的，而不总是受人服事，这样我们就会变得完整：我们离救恩不远了。现在我想我已经准备好迎接雨季了。

你呢?感谢上帝的智慧。阿门

Hyuk Cho 赵赫

Coordinating Minister 牧师

West Point Grey United Church WPGC 联合教会