

Gather together  
to be poured out.



post-quarantine

# THE CHURCH.

SERMON  
SERIES

APRIL 10 -  
MAY 23



# WEEK ONE



# HEARTS OF FLESH

**ACTS 1:6-14, 2:1-4**

After a year of “sheltering” and closures the world is beginning to open. We as a church are in a time like no other with an invitation to respond. Who we are as a Church and who God has called us to be is what we will seek to discover as we look past our time of quarantine and into the fullness of God’s direction.

In the book of Acts we find the disciples in what would be a 10 day waiting period. Jesus had ascended into heaven and the Holy Spirit had not yet descended upon the earth. They knew they were to wait for something, or more specifically someone; yet, their present reality was that of eager expectation. The early disciples knew that God was “doing a new thing” (Isaiah 43:19), but they had no idea what it was. They went to Jerusalem to prepare themselves (“orient”) for what God would do in, for, and through them.

While in waiting they gathered together “in one accord” and “devoted themselves to prayer.” As Scott and Troy discussed, these actions are ones that we as a Church body must embrace for our own future formation.

***ALL THESE WITH ONE ACCORD WERE DEVOTING THEMSELVES TO PRAYER, TOGETHER WITH THE WOMEN AND MARY THE MOTHER OF JESUS, AND HIS BROTHERS.***

**ACTS 1:14**

As you begin to think through what your post-quarantine-life looks like, we invite you to consider what it would look like for you to gather together with your church family and be devoted to prayer.

# DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- What is one way you could “orient” to prepare yourself for God’s “new thing”?
- “I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh (Ezekiel 36: 26). If you were to describe yourself right now, would you say your “heart” is closer to being “stone” (old) or being “flesh” (new)? What could you do to be more open to God’s softening of your heart?
- When was a time you were “surprised” by God? What did that look like? How did you respond?
- “He who was seated on the throne said, ‘I am making everything new!’” (Revelation 21:4). God’s plan for you is to give you a new heart and to reorient you – come with no demands, control or agenda, to take risks – so he may use you in his kingdom. Which word describes best how you feel about this: excited, hopeful, nervous, disinterested.

## PRAYER

- Take this time to pray for your group members. What are specific things you need prayer for?
- How can the church family who is currently around you encourage you this week?





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**BEHOLD, I AM DOING A  
NEW THING;  
NOW IT SPRINGS FORTH,  
DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT?**

ISAIAH 43:19

“



**ST. ANDREW'S**  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

