

**Bible Meditation — Genesis 32:22–32
Jacob Wrestles with God**

Find a quiet place, alone and apart from distractions. Be comfortably alert, still, and at peace. Say the Lord's Prayer. Sing or cant the Jesus Prayer. Pray for family, friends, neighbors, and yourself. Slowly and carefully read the passage of Scripture.

1. Jacob, grandson of Abraham and son of Isaac, has his entire world turned upside down. His brother Esau and he are struggling in their relationship, and Jacob is hard pressed as to what to do.
2. Jacob and company are camped near a river named Jabbok, that flows into the Jordan River 24 miles north of the Dead Sea. Jacob sends his company across this river and is thus alone in the desert.
3. All alone, Jacob "wrestled" with a man. The identity of this man is a mystery. Some of the possibilities are: Jacob's guardian angel; another angel; Jacob wrestled with himself; Maimonides says it was a dream only—some say a demon; Calvin says the pre-incarnate Christ, and more. It is a mystery! Perhaps it is that Jacob wrestled with God in a way we do not understand.
4. Jacob, while winning the match, is touched on his hip socket by the "man" and is thus disabled. The "man" is yet losing the match and begs to be let go of. Jacob will not do so until the "man" blesses him.
5. The man asks Jacob what his name is and to the response the man says that he will no longer be called Jacob but Israel. The reason is that Jacob had won the wrestling match. Israel means "God rules" or "One who wrestles against God."
6. Jacob names the location of the match "Peniel," which means "the face of God." And Jacob's great surprise is that, though he fought against God, he did not lose his life.
7. The meaning of this story for followers of Jesus today is varied. It may refer to the fact that in our battle against God, despite our sin and rebelliousness, God will yet win us to Himself.

Notes:

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Leader: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
People: And also with you.

The Gloria Patri

Hymn: #87 Fairest Lord Jesus

Call to Worship:

Sh'ma Yisrael Adonai Elohenu Adonai echad

"Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one."

Leader: Our God is a gracious and loving God.

People: **WE THANK HIM FOR HIS MERCY TO US.**

Leader: He is God Almighty, Creator of all there is.

People: **WE ACKNOWLEDGE HIM AS LORD AND JUDGE OF ALL.**

Leader: Now we bow before Him, our Savior and Lord.

People: **BLESSED BE THE NAME OF THE LORD.**

Morning Prayer — Prayers of the Church — Silent Prayer

Collect of the Day:

LORD GOD, YOU CALL US TO WORK IN YOUR VINEYARD AND LEAVE NO ONE STANDING IDLE. SET US TO OUR TASKS IN THE WORK OF YOUR KINGDOM, AND HELP US TO ORDER OUR LIVES BY YOUR WISDOM; THROUGH YOUR SON, JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD. AMEN.

We Confess our Faith — The Apostle's Creed

Scripture Reading: Genesis 32:22–32; Exodus 3:1–6; 33:17–23; Hosea 12:1–6; Ephesians 6:10–20; Colossians 3:5–11

Memory Verse: For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers over this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Ephesians 6:12

Reflection: And we also "wrestle" against a holy God.

Choruses: “The Lion of Judah” and “Peace Give I to Thee”

Offertory Theme: Giving: against our (selfish) nature

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Ways to give when not present at service:

- 1) Go to the “Giving” page of our website: milleravenuechurch.org/giving and click on the “Donate” button, then follow the link.
- 2) Download the GivePlus+ app on your smartphone, then input Miller Avenue Church and follow the instructions.
- 3) Text a dollar amount (e.g., \$25) to 844-918-0231, then follow the link.
- 4) Mail a check to Miller Avenue Church, 285 Miller Ave., Mill Valley, CA 94941

The Doxology

Announcements: Birthdays. **Masks are again “REQUIRED” for vaccinated and non-vaccinated alike except while at the mic.**

Bible Exposition—Colossians 3:5–11 (Katie)

Hymn: #572 Blessed Assurance

Sermon: Genesis 32:22–32 “Jacob Wrestles with God” (Jim)

Notes:

Benediction Hymn: #602 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Aaronic Benediction (Numbers 6:24–26):

May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace. Shalom. Amen.

Join us in person or via Zoom for several Sunday evenings when we will show and discuss the series **“The Chosen”** **New time: 5:00 pm**

Visit our church website: www.milleravenuechurch.org:
TV Shows, Worship Service Videos, Audio Sermons, Essays, Pastor’s Blog, Community Blog, Newsletters, Bulletins, Photo Gallery, Giving Portal, and more!

Also visit our Facebook page:

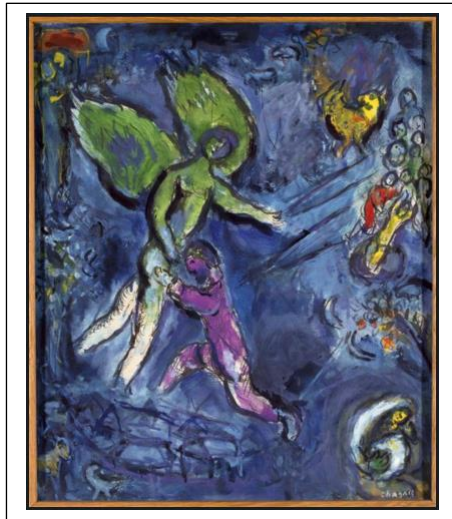
<https://www.facebook.com/miller.avenue.church.mill.valley>

Did you know?

Our “Miller Avenue Church” video-on-demand apps are now on:
Your iPhone (at the App Store) or Android phone (at the Play Store) plus

Roku
Apple TV
Fire TV
Google TV
YouTube
Cross.TV

Our Bible Study podcasts are also on:
Apple podcasts, Amazon music/audible, Gaana, YouTube Music, iHeartRadio, Radio.com mobile app, and Spotify (look for “Miller Avenue Church”)
Questions? ask_katie@milleravenuechurch.org



Ministry Associates

Kent Philpott - Senior Pastor
Vernon Philpott - Associate Pastor
Katie Philpott - Associate Pastor
Andrea Busta - Audio-Visual
Jim Daley - Associate Pastor
Doug Fairclough - Associate Pastor
Daniel Dover – Preaching/Handyman
John Konieczko – Eastern Pastor

← “Jacob Wrestling with the Angel” by Marc Chagall, 1963

WEEKLY SCHEDULE POST-PANDEMIC	
SUNDAY	
Morning Worship (<i>in person and via Zoom</i>)	10:30am–12:00pm
Lunch and Collegium (<i>next to last Sunday</i>)	12:20pm–1:20pm
Evening Worship (<i>In the chapel for episodes of “The Chosen” + discussion</i>)	5:00pm–6:30pm
TUESDAY	
Bible Study via Zoom (currently on Kent’s book, <i>Christian Basics</i>)	6:00–7:00pm
WEDNESDAY	
Divorce Recovery Workshop (<i>via Zoom</i>)	7:00pm–8:30pm
SATURDAY	
Donated Food Pickup front of chapel	11:00am–1:00pm

Miller Avenue Baptist Church
 285 Miller Avenue, Mill Valley, CA 94941
www.milleravenuechurch.org (415) 388-5993

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty,
 Creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son,
 our Lord. He was conceived by the power
 of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin
 Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead. On the third
 day He rose again. He ascended into
 heaven and is seated at the right hand
 of the Father. He will come again
 to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy
 Christian Church, the communion
 of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life everlasting. **Amen**

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Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 Hallowed be thy name.
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread and
 forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive
 those who trespass against us.
 Lead us not into temptation
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
 and the glory forever. **Amen**

Visitor Information Card

✂ **Please tear off and fill out card. Place in offering basket or give to church staff member.**

Today’s Date: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Prayer Request

Please pray for:

Other comments:

I would like someone to contact me to pray over more confidential matters.

Phone: _____

Email: _____

I would like to learn more about:

- Christianity
- The Bible
- Baptism
- Receiving Counseling
- Other

I am interested in helping with:

- Lunch
- Fix-up and Clean-up
- Donated Food Pick-up
- Worship Choir
- Worship Audio/Visual
- Television Crewing
- Pastoral Care Team
- Teaching
- Writing and Publishing
- Website Maintenance
- Yard Sale
- Other

I am interested in attending:

- A Master Life class
- Wed. Eve. Divorce Recovery
- Men's Group (TBD)
- Women's Bible Study
- Pastor's class on Deliverance
- Pastor's class on the sermon

Other Comments:

**Upcoming Preaching Schedule
Morning Service:**

- Oct. 3:** Sermon= Genesis 37 to 45 (Kent)
Expo= Colossians 3:12–17 (Vern)
- Oct. 10:** Sermon= Genesis 46 to 50 (Kent)
Expo= Colossians 3:18–4:1 (Kent)
- Oct. 17:** Sermon= Luke Introduction (Kent)
Expo= Colossians 4:2–6 (Daniel)

Evening Service:

Currently watching episodes of "The Chosen" with discussion following.

Filming schedule at CMCM has resumed most Thursday afternoons. Contact Kent or Katie if you are interested in learning how to crew on our productions.

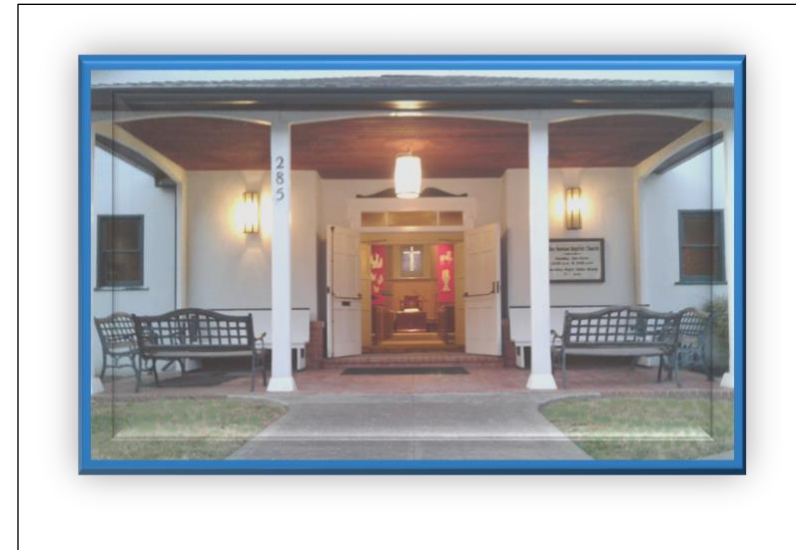
TV Program Viewing Schedule
(View all on channel 26 or 99)

Why We Are Christians: Saturdays 1:30 and Fridays 7:30 PM
Bible Study: Fridays 8:00 PM
The Rabbi/Shaman/Wiccan and the Pastor: Sundays noon, Mondays 2:30 PM

For current daily broadcast schedule, check online at cmcm.tv/watchcommunity

Giving:

Monthly Budget	\$3,500
Giving for September	\$3,316



Miller Avenue Baptist Church

An Evangelical and Reformed Congregation*

*For I am not ashamed of the gospel,
 for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes,
 to the Jew first and also to the Greek.
 (Romans 1:16)*

Welcome!

September 26, 2021

*We claim the original, non-political, Biblical meaning of "Gospel Proclamation"