

SO SEND I YOU, INC. 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Saint John Baptist Church is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: 2024 LENTEN DEVOTIONAL

Time: Feb 23, 2024 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Every day, until Mar 31, 2024

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82089300351?pwd=qdHdd5LGaTRWPhJCRgOxsK6bL2Fnji.1>

Meeting ID: 820 8930 0351

Passcode: 628471

Dial by your location

- **+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)**
- **+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)**

DAY 9 FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2024

A GOD WHO DELIGHTS IN MERCY

Rev. Allen Paul Weaver III

Micah 7:18 “Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy.”

The book of Micah was written between 742-687 B.C., but reading 7:1-6 sounds like today! The righteous are swept from the land. Those who remain are only out for self. Criminality abounds. Lies, deceit, and manipulation abound. The powerful scheme for riches. Neighbors, friends, and family members can't be trusted because they betray for their own advancement.

What a society to live in! Micah was in it then and we are in it now! For all of the new ways to commit evil, we still deal with the same root causes. 1 John 2:16 lists them as the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. However, Micah boldly declares in verse 7: “But as for me, I watch in hope for the LORD. I wait for God my Savior; my God will hear me.”

Let us say this about our own commitment to the LORD, “As for me...” It doesn't matter how bad things get. We will keep our focus on the God who delights in mercy! Because

Micah kept his focus on God, he was allowed to see the future. It is the time when God will bring worldwide justice to His redeemed inheritance. Micah is a prophet sent to Israel, so this inheritance applies first to his people. This can be traced back to the promise God made to Abraham. That promise also extends to us Gentiles who believe in its fulfillment through Christ.

Jesus is the fulfillment of God's mercy towards humanity. Even though sin abounds, God's grace abounds even more (Rom 5:20)! That's the whole idea of mercy: God gives us what we don't deserve. God doesn't save us because we are "good" people. He saves us to demonstrate His loving mercy and bestows His goodness on us. So, during this Lenten season, let us remember the LORD's mercy keeps us from being consumed (Lam 3:22-23).

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for delighting in your mercy towards us. Thank you for your Son, Jesus, who fully embodies your mercy. Thank you for your redemption and the global justice you will bring on that future day—Micah saw—at Christ's Second coming. In Jesus' Name. Amen.