

Tuesday, September 20

Dear fellow pilgrims,

Tomorrow evening at 7 p.m. in St. Philip's Parish Hall we will commence what promises to be a wonderful journey as we embark on studying C.S. Lewis's brilliant book *The Great Divorce*. Please come early if you like and join us for our informal Eucharist at 5:30 in the church and a delicious dinner in the Parish Hall starting around 6:25 p.m.

If you cannot join us in person, we will be livestreaming the class at the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RRrQW3dEFLQ>

The class will also be available on Apple podcast, Spotify, and the church website within the next few days.

Please do go ahead and order the book and be prepared to mark it up. If you already have the book, you might find it helpful to go ahead and read the preface before class, but no worries at all if not.

If you want to get a taste of what we have to look forward to, listen to this brief introduction to the class:

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/the-great-divorce-c-s-lewis-on-gods-truth-or-your-truth/id1644949841>

I love the following quotation from Lewis's preface to the book. In talking about our personal and cultural quest to "have it all" he says:

The attempt is based on the belief that reality never presents us with an absolutely unavoidable "either-or"; that, granted skill and patience and (above all) time enough, some way of embracing both alternatives can always be found; that mere development or adjustment or refinement will somehow turn evil into good without our being called on for a final and total rejection of anything we should like to retain.

This belief I take to be a disastrous error. You cannot take all luggage with you on all journeys; on one journey even your right hand and your right eye may be among the things you have to leave behind.

Does anyone else find that strikingly relevant today? So looking forward to this journey with you--please come and bring a friend, or if you are in another city or country, gather some friends and share the class or podcast and discuss. Hope to see you soon!

Further up and further in,
Brian+