

GATHERING

Welcome, Check-in, & Announcements

Prelude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Responsive Reading

Servant: Praise be to God who reigns above the heavens. **People: Praise be to God who dwells within our hearts.** Servant: Let the majesty of creation worship in reverence. **People: Let each man, woman and child pray in faith.** All: Praise be to God

Call-to-Worship

Fill the Land

The Work of the People

#104

Invocation

Gracious God, we thank you that we can rest in you, secure amid the conflict and confusion of life. We thank you that you provide for our needs and that you have trusted us to one another's care. Help us to receive with humility and to give with joy. Help us to share what we have without fear of tomorrow. May we be peacemakers and justice makers, that one day humanity may choose bread over weapons and fairness over weapons and fairness over greed. Amen.

Hymn

Fairest Lord Jesus

Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature. O Thou of God and man the Son!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.
Fair are the meadows, Fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, who makes the woeful heart to sing.
Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host:
Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.
Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine!

The Written Word

Psalm 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. (Selah)

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. (Selah)

STEWARDSHIP

Chorus

Mission Moment	Notes of Encouragement	Gary Baits
Tithes and Offering		
Doxology	111 · 0	
Praise God from whom a	6	
Praise God all creations h		
Praise Him above ye heav		
Praise Father, Son, and H	oly Gnost.	
Song	Here I am, Lord	Choir
Chorus		
Here I am Lord, is it I Lord	? I have heard you calling in the night.	
I will go Lord, if you lead r	ne. I will hold your people in my heart.	
Verse 1		
	I have heard my people cry.	
All who dwell in dark and		
	, ight, I will make their darkness bright.	
	them? Whom shall I send?	
7.8.00		

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart. NRSV

Song (continued)

Here I am, Lord

Verse 2 I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have born my people 's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone, I will speak my word to them, whom shall I send?

Chorus

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Verse 3

I the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame, I will set a feast for them, my hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts are satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send

Chorus

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

The Written Word

Ephesians 1: 3-14

The Message

How blessed is God! And what a blessing God is! The Parent of our Master, Jesus Christ, and takes us to the high places of blessing. Long before the earth's foundations were laid, God had us in mind, had settled on us as the focus of God's love, to be made whole and holy by this love. Long, long ago God decided to adopt us into God's family through Jesus Christ. (What pleasure he took in planning this!) He wanted us to enter into the celebration of his lavish gift-giving by the hand of his beloved Son.

Because of the sacrifice of the Messiah, his blood poured out on the altar of the Cross, we're a free people-free of penalties and punishments chalked up by all our misdeeds. And not just barely free, either. Abundantly free! He thought of everything, provided for everything we could possibly need, letting us in on the plans he took such delight in making. He set it all out before us in Christ, a long-range plan in which everything would be brought together and summed up in him, everything in deepest heaven, everything on planet earth.

It's in Christ that we find out who we are and what we are living for. Long before we first heard of Christ and got our hopes up, he had his eye on us, had designs on us for glorious living, part of the overall purpose he is working out in everything and everyone.

Choir

The Written Word (continued)

Ephesians 1: 3-14

It's in Christ that you, once you heard the truth and believed it (this Message of your salvation), found yourselves home free–signed, sealed, and delivered by the Holy Spirit. This down payment from God is the first installment on what's coming, a reminder that we'll get everything God has planned for us, a praising and glorious life.

Prayers of the People

O God, Strength of the faithful, Encouragement to all who have defied the powerful to protect human lives, strengthen us now. Through your Spirit of power, we may find courage and resolve to protect children from violence and abuse. Guide us as we seek to build a world where all children will be loved and nurtured, that they may brow to fulfill your purpose in their lives.

If we carry excess baggage on life's journey, teach us to travel more simply. If our possessions own us, free us to trust you and share with others. If our need for control keeps us anxious and demanding, help us to relax. If we carry loads of guilt, may we hand them over to you, trusting you to forgive us. God, make us simple; simple in trust, simple in life, simple in commitment to you.

Prepare us for your mission. Allow us to join your labor to heal the hurting, feed the hungry, and bring good news to the poor. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, in whose name we are baptized and sent on mission. Amen.

Hymn

We Gather Together

#597, v. 2, 3

The Message

Rev. Mark Rambo

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining; ordaining, maintaining God's kingdom divine; So from the beginning the fight we were winning Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be Thine We all do extol Thee, Thou Leader triumphant, and pray that Thou still our Defender wilt be. Let Thy congregation escape tribulation: Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

STORYTIME

The Written Word

Amos 7: 7–15

Spoken Word

Plumb Line

Rev. Mark Rambo

Hymn

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

I am weak, but Thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong; I'll be satisfied as long; as I walk, let me walk close to Thee. Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it Jesus, is my plea; daily walking close to Thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be. Thru this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares? Guide me gently, safely shares? None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee. Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it Jesus, is my plea; daily walking close to Thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be. When my feeble life is o'er, time for me will be no more; Guide me gently, safely o'er; to Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore Just a closer walk with Thee, grant it Jesus, is my plea; daily walking close to Thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently