

Welcome, Check-in, & Announcements

Prelude Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Responsive Reading Art Mize

Servant: We come to this worship lonely, or empty, or frightened.

People: We come to this worship sick or grieving or discouraged.

Servant: We come from households spiky with anger. We come with unfinished projects, ruined plans, and multiple irritations.

People: We come from broken diets, hidden drinking, unanswered mail, and a week without bedtime prayers.

Servant: We come from nuclear paralysis and the refusal to read the newspaper for fear of learning how we might help someone.

People: From inadequacy we seek God's wholeness; from delinquency we seek God's forgiveness; from self-imposed impotence we hope to be freed for love and service by the gospel's power.

Invocation

Merciful God, Just God, Faithful God, God of blessing and God of our most difficult times, we come to you for a moment of quiet in our self-made busyness.

We come to you for energy in our weariness.

We come to you for challenge when we are willing to settle for our own small plans and dreams.

We long for the peace of your presence, even as we are afraid of the urgency of your call.

Enter, Spirit of God, into each of our lives and enliven us;

enter, Spirit of God, into our community and enable us to love and serve you and all your children. Amen.

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Hymn Stand Up and Bless the Lord

#100

Stand up and bless the Lord, Ye people of God's choice;

Stand up and bless the Lord your God with heart and soul and voice.

Though high above all praise, above all blessing high;

Who would not fear God's holy name, and laud and magnify?

God is our strength and song, and God's salvation ours;

Then be God's love in Christ proclaimed with all our ransomed powers.

Stan up and bless the Lord, the Lord your God adore;

Stand up and bless God's glorious name, henceforth forever more.

The Written Word

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Debe Andersen

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So, I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

Mission Moment/Storytime

What is God Like?

Rev. Mark Rambo

(Safe, Brave, Loved)

Song

His Mercy is More

Choir

What love could remember no wrongs we have done?

Omniscient, all knowing, He counts not their sum.

Thrown into the sea without bottom or shore; our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

What patience would wait as we constantly roam? What Father, so tender, is calling us home? He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor. Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more, stronger than darkness, new every morn, our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

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Song (continued) His Mercy is More Choir

What riches of kindness He lavished on us, His blood was the payment, His life was the cost.

We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford.

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, His mercy is more, stronger than darkness, new every morn,

Our sins they are many, His mercy is more.

ENTERING GOD'S STORY

The Written Word Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 Emily Blair

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

The Visual Word Invitation to Something Larger TWOTP

(Mark Labberton)

The Spoken Word Vacation Rev. Mark Rambo

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RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Song

Caught in the Reeds (Moses)

David Nash

I saw a burning bush; A flaming silhouette in the night
If I'm standing on holy ground I'm living on
borrowed time
You said I am who I am, I was your boat in the Nile
All I know is there's blood on my hands; Just that rivers bastard child

Oh, oh-oh, oh; Oh, oh-oh, oh

I talked to God like a friend and still doubted Him Saw the oceans split wide and still wondered why I still find it so hard to believe and why my heart still gets caught in those reeds

I've seen signs and wonders, things that I can't understand So why do I keep on doubting that You're my promised land? You have been bread in the desert; You've been water from the rock So why's it so hard to believe that, That Your love never stops?

Talked to God like a friend and still doubted Him Saw the oceans split wide and still wondered why I still find it so hard to believe and why my heart still gets caught in those reeds

Oh, oh-oh, oh; Oh, oh-oh, oh Oh, oh-oh, oh; Oh, oh-oh, oh

My heart's been caught in the reeds; I've been living waist deep my whole life But Your word, it has split seas, It sets captives free And I wanna live in that light, I wanna live in Your light My heart's been caught in the reeds, I've been living waist deep my whole life Your word it has split seas; It sets captives free And I wanna live in that light; I wanna live in Your light

Oh, oh-oh, oh; Oh, oh-oh, oh Oh, oh-oh, oh; Oh, oh-oh, oh

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Prayers of the People

Rev. Mark Rambo

#403

God, we call you by so many names: Father, Abba, Mother, Loved One, Counselor, Friend, Guide, Alpha & Omega. Yet every name reflects your relationship to us, your creation. Each name pushes us beyond imagination to think of you without thinking of ourselves. We cannot think of you without us, and for that we give you praise. As Ruth said to Naomi, let us say to you, O you upon whom we must depend, "Where you go, we will go; where you lodge, we will lodge, your people shall be our people." We give you thanks that even when we have been too busy to notice, you O God, has been constantly loving us and encouraging us to grow in the light of your Love. For your generosity and grace, intimate and ever-loving God, we give to you all these things that need You. We pray, amen... and amen.

Stewardship

Consistent, Faithful & Joyful Giving

Hymn O to Be Like Thee!

O to be like Thee! blessed Redeemer, this is my constant longing and prayer.

Gladly I'll forfeit all of earth's treasures, Jesus, Thy perfect likeness to wear.

O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!

Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness; Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

O to be like Thee! full of compassion, loving, forgiving, tender and kind.

Helping the helpless, cheering the fainting, seeking the wandering sinner to find.

O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!

Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness; Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

O to be like Thee! lowly in spirit, Holy and harmless, patient and brave;

Meekly enduring cruel reproaches, willing to suffer 'others to save.

O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!

Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness; Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

O to be like Thee! while I am pleading, pour out Thy Spirit, fill with Thy love;

Make me a temple meet for Thy dwelling, fit me for life and heaven above.

O to be like Thee! O to be like Thee, Blessed Redeemer, pure as Thou art!

Come in Thy sweetness, come in Thy fullness; Stamp Thine own image deep on my heart.

Weekly Challenge

Postlude

Dr. Jonathan Spatola-Knoll

Benediction Walk Humbly • Love Completely • Live Differently