



THE WORSHIP OF GOD

4th Sunday after Epiphany | January 31, 2021

PRELUDE *Jesus Calls Us* arranged by F. Freudenbud
Chad Hammer, cello (*Recorded August 11, 2019*)

CALL TO WORSHIP Chuck & Carol Partridge, liturgists

(*All speak words in **boldface.***)

Listen to the stories of God, **promising God's steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Listen to the Son of God, **showing us how to live, love, and serve.**

Listen to the Spirit of God, **revealing God's call in our lives.**

Let us worship God.

HYMN *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* REST

Sue Anderson, Alberta Gisel, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, quartet

Dear Lord and Father of mankind,

forgive our foolish ways;

re clothe us in our rightful mind,

in purer lives thy service find,

in deeper reverence, praise.

TEXT: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872. TUNE: Frederick Charles Maker, 1887 P.D.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Loving God, we are thankful that you humbled yourself to live among us; joyful that you chose us to be your companions; amazed that you stick by us, for we often struggle sticking by you. Gracious God, open the deep down eyes of every heart that we might see you.

May we see your compassion **that created us;**

your imagination **that bound us together;**

your justice **that shapes our future;**

your word **that calls us to be;**

your healing **that recreates each day;**

your forgiveness **that transforms who we shall be;**

your spirit **that redefines who we are;**
your hope **that never lets us go.**

(Silent confession)

And as you reveal your presence to us
may our actions reveal your Light to the world. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Friends,
our prayers are accepted; our lives are forgiven.
Christ is revealed to us and with awe
we recognize our incredible value in God's love.
We are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

RESPONSE OF PRAISE *Glory Be to the Father* GLORIA PATRI (GREATOREX)
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, amen. (TEXT: Trad. liturgical text P.D. TUNE: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851 P.D.)

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 6:1-16

SERMON "Lord of the Sabbath" Rev. Laura Viau

HYMN *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (verse two)* REST
In simple trust like theirs who heard beside the Syrian sea
the gracious calling of the Lord, let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15)
God's sovereign love is a mystery
beyond the reach of the human mind.
Human thought ascribes to God
superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness.
But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ
by showing power in the form of a servant,

wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in receiving
sinful men and women.
The power of God's love in Christ
to transform the world
discloses that the Redeemer
is the Lord and Creator
who made all things
to serve the purpose of God's love.

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

.....

open our hearts and eyes to the signs, revealing yourself and your will for us:
**guiding us through the teachings of Jesus to seek justice, love kindness, and
walk humbly with you.**

.....

the pain of broken relationships and loss,
**you remain steadfast in your care and devotion for your entire creation
throughout the universe.**

.....

ignorance about your ways,
you remain constantly present to us.

.....

found everywhere. We pray for those who are lonely,
that you might lead us to reach out and be friends.

We pray for those who are hungry,
that you might lead us to offer sustenance.

We pray for those who are lost,
that you might lead us to give hope and direction.

We pray for the countries of the world,
that we might find a way to work together to lift one another up.

.....

And we pray for ourselves, that we might continue on this journey,

Following where your Spirit leads learning the lessons you offer, seeking the fullness of your perfection, and living as you would have us live.

We pray all of these things in the name of Jesus, the light who has come so that we might shine, saying the prayer that he taught his disciples:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors' and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power; and the glory, forever. Amen.

HYMN

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (verse three)

REST

***O Sabbath rest by Galilee, O calm of hills above,
where Jesus knelt to share with thee the silence of eternity,
interpreted by love!***

BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING RESPONSE

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

“Go, my children, with my blessing, closer to me Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit’s power filled you; here my tender comfort stilled you. Go, my children, with my blessing, closer to me.”

O Lord, may it be.

TEXT: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983 TUNE: Welsh melody Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House
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PLEASE REMEMBER THE CHURCH IN YOUR WILL. ☺