

PRELUDE Psalm 95:1-6 by H. B. Bingham; Soloist: Rex Parvin

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG *Let the Whole Creation Cry* ELW #576 (Public Domain)

GREETING (ELW p. 147)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And, also with you.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ☩ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins. **Amen.**

KYRIE (ELW pages 147-148, setting 4)

CANTICLE OF PRAISE *This is the Feast* (ELW pages 149-150, setting 4)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children.

Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

FIRST READING: A reading from **Jeremiah 11:18-20**

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew;
then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me
that they devised schemes, saying,

“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously,
who try the heart and the mind,
let me see your retribution upon them,
for to you I have committed my cause.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 54 (sung responsively) Psalms begin on page 339 in ELW

¹Save me, O God, ¹by your name;
in your might, de- ¹fend my cause.

²**Hear my ¹prayer, O God;
give ear to the words ¹of my mouth.**

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have ¹sought my life,
those who have no re- ¹gard for God.

⁴**Behold, God ¹is my helper;
it is the Lord who sus- ¹tains my life.**

⁵Render evil to those who ¹spy on me;
in your faithful- ¹ness, destroy them.

⁶**I will offer you a ¹freewill sacrifice
and praise your name, O LORD, for ¹it is good.**

⁷For you have rescued me from ¹every trouble,
and my eye looks down ¹on my enemies.

MUSIC Near the Cross (Lyrics: Fanny Crosby 1869); Soloist: Rex Parvin

SECOND READING: A reading from **James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a**

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.^{4:}

¹Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Alleluia* (ELW page 151, setting 4)

GOSPEL: The holy gospel according to **Mark 9:30-37** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;³¹ for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.” ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you arguing about on the way?” ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.” ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷“Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.”
The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Children of the Heavenly Father* ELW 781 (Augsburg Fortress)

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (ELW p. 105)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Made children and heirs of God’s promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

A: God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of creation, we pray for this hurting earth. Awaken in us a new desire to care for this world and empower us to support agencies, organizations, and individual efforts to heal our environment. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict. Inspire leaders to listen to each other and work towards peaceful solutions to disagreements. Protect the vulnerable, especially children, who cannot find safety in their home or country. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A: God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today. Shine your grace on all your saints. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

P: Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And, also with you.**

OFFERING Psalm 8 by HB Bingham; soloist *Rex Parvin*

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 112 right side)

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who hunger and thirst, come. The table is ready.

Receive communion "*the body of Christ given for you*" and "*the blood of Christ shed for you.*"

COMMUNION *Lamb of God* (ELW page 154, setting 4)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world.

The holy Trinity, ☩ one God, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG *Go, Make Disciples* ELW #540 (Prince of Peace/One License)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.**

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BIO: *Rex Parvin Biography*

Rex Parvin has undergraduate and graduate degrees in music education (vocal/choral) from Millikin University and University of Illinois. He had a 30year career as a full-time church music director and worship leader in United Methodist, Lutheran, Baptist and Presbyterian churches across the country. He and his wife, Rhonda, then spent 15 years in a family business doing Government contracting in the Washington DC area before retiring back to Illinois last year. They now live near Rhonda's family in Monticello. Rex has been presenting street concerts in Monticello and Decatur since moving to the area. So far, he has done 25 concerts of all Christian music out in public since September of 2020.