

## **Worship Service on Monday, January 22, 2024**

**Quiet Time Prayer** #360 *UMH* "Freedom in Christ"

**Welcome**

**Greeting** God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

**Question of the Day** Definition of "gospel"? a) evangelion b) about Jesus c) good news

**\*Hymn** "Cornerstone"

**\*Call to Worship** #787 *UMH* Psalm 62:5-12

**\*Prayer of Invocation**

**God, whose reign is nearer than we have realized, and whose realm is available to us even here and now, speak your invitation to us today in ways we have never fully heard before. Confront us again with the good news you want us to share. Enlist us in reaching out to the world with love and joy, so all may be saved from calamity and know the fulfillment you intend for every person. Amen.**

**Mark 1:12-20 New Revised Standard Version**

*[Following Jesus' baptism.]* And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea – for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fish for people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

**Response:** *The Word of God, for the people of God! Thanks be to God!*

**Time of Prayer**

**How Is It With Your Soul?**

**Unison Prayer**

**We await your message, God of all places and times. Sometimes we do not like what we hear, but we know we need to listen. Your message is inclusive and fair, while we like to make distinctions that favor us and our friends. You call us out of our comfort zones to do new things and try better ways. You direct us to reach out to people with whom we seem to have little in common. Speak your truth to us so we can carry it to the places where you want us to go, to the people you are eager to reach.**

**Sung Prayer** #2130 *FWS* "The Summons"

*Time of Silent Prayer*

With Jesus we pray:

**The Lord's Prayer**

**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 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. Amen.**

## **Answer to the Question of the Day**

Definition of “gospel”? a) evangelion b) about Jesus c) good news

Definition of “gospel”? a) ~~evangelion~~ b) **about Jesus** c) **good news**

**Time of Offering** *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

### **Offering Prayer**

**God of steadfast love, we pray that you will love the world through the moneys we dedicate today. We pray that your work of transformation will be carried forward by our gifts. As a church, we seek to follow where Jesus leads. As individuals, we heed the call to discipleship. Bless our efforts to fish for people – for their sakes, not our own. Amen.**

**\*Song of Offering** “Give Thanks”

**Message** “Believe in the Good News” Rev. Joyce Rich

### **\*Commission and Blessing**

God sends us out into the world with good news.

God directs us to warn and to give assurance.

**We are disciples of Jesus Christ.**

**We have been commissioned and blessed.**

We go out as people who know our own weakness.

We rise above our shortcoming in the strength Christ gives.

**We will trust in God at all times.**

**We will speak God’s truth in love.**

The reign of God is drawing near to us.

It can be realized in our lives here and now.

**We accept God’s rule among us.**

**We are citizens of God’s realm.**

Amen. **And Amen.**

**\*Hymn** “Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

## **Announcements**

**Read for Next Week** Psalm 111; Mark 1:21-28

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B**, Lavon Bayler © 1996 United Church Press.*