

## Sunday, January 24, 2021

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

**Question of the Day:** What can the new video equipment do that the old equipment couldn't?

### Call to Worship

For God alone our souls wait in silence.

Our hope is from God, our fortress.

**God is our rock and our salvation.**

**God is our refuge and our deliverance.**

We trust in God at all times, in all places.

We pour out our hearts to the One who hears.

**We worship God, who is ready to speak to us.**

**We open our lives to God's steadfast love.**

### Prayer of Invocation

**We await your message, God of all places and times. Even if we do not like what we hear, we know we need to listen. 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. May your Holy Spirit inspire and guide us. Amen.**

**Hymn** "I Will Call Upon the Lord"

### Mark 1:14-20 *The Message*

After John was arrested, Jesus went to Galilee preaching the Message of God: "Time's up! God's kingdom is here. Change your life and believe the Message."

Passing along the beach of Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew net-fishing. Fishing was their regular work. Jesus said to them, "Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass." They didn't ask questions. They dropped their nets and followed.

A dozen yards or so down the beach, he saw the brothers James and John, Zebedee's sons. They were in the boat, mending their fishnets. Right off, he made the same offer. Immediately, they left their father Zebedee, the boat, and the hired hands, and followed.

### Psalm 62:5-12 *NRSV*

For God alone my soul waits in silence,

for my hope is from him.

He alone is my rock and my salvation,

my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

On God rests my deliverance and my honor;

my mighty rock, my refuge is in God.

Trust in him at all times, O people;

pour out your heart before him;

God is a refuge for us.

Those of low estate are but a breath,

those of high estate are a delusion;

in the balances they go up;

they are together lighter than a breath.

Put no confidence in extortion,

and set no vain hopes on robbery;

if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.  
Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this:  
that power belongs to God,  
and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord.  
For you repay to all according to their work.

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

### **Time of Prayer**

#### **How Is It With Your Soul?**

#### **Call to Confession**

Trusting in the promise of grace, let us pour out our hearts before God.

#### **Prayer of Confession**

**Forgiving God, we repent of all the ways we turn from you. You call, but we do not listen; you show us your path, but we prefer our own way. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you, that we might show mercy to others.**

*(Time of Silent Prayer)*

#### **Assurance**

This is the word of the Lord: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven by God and given new life. As God's own children let us lift up our prayers of intercession:

#### **Prayers of Intercession**

**God of new visions, we pray for people highly placed in power, that they may focus their eyes on you. And we pray for the lowly victims of power, that they may also focus their eyes on you. We pray for those who bless with their lips but curse with their mouths, including ourselves. We pray for those who are ill and those facing the end of life. Give them the gift of prayer, that they may pour out their hearts to you. We pray for the church and its leaders, that we may hear and respond to your call to be fishers of people.**

Rock of our salvation, 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:**

What can the new video equipment do that the old equipment couldn't?

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

#### **Offering Prayer**

**Merciful God, we celebrate our salvation by fearlessly giving a portion of what has already been given to us. 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 and your glory, and not our own. Amen.**

**Sermon** "Power Belongs to God" Rev. Joyce Rich

### **Commission and Blessing**

Go as people who know your own weakness.

Rise above your shortcomings in the power of God.

**God sends us out into the world with good news.**

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

Amen. **And Amen.**

**Hymn** “The Same Power”

**Announcements**

**Readings For Next Week:** Mark 1:21-39; Psalm 111

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B**, Lavon Bayler © 1996 United Church Press; and **Feasting on the Word: Liturgies for Year B, Volume I**, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press.*