

First Sunday in Lent, Year BFebruary 21, 2021

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

Stand at your watchpost and watch for a vision.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it.
It will surely come.
It will not delay...

***SCRIPTURE READING** Haggai 2:1-9

*** OPENING HYMN: #158..... Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sin is an ugly characteristic. But it does not prevent Jesus from wanting to come to us.

People: Our lives are unfit for Jesus. But we are confident he would change all that if we let him live in our hearts.

Leader: Indeed, he would! And that fellowship with Christ will inspire us to change our way of living to reflect God's salvation.

People: Praise God for divine love and forgiveness! We intend to live a new life which demonstrates the love of Christ in us.

*** Let us pray (Congregation):**

Eternal God of our salvation, whose power of redemption through Jesus Christ your Son enables persons in the grip of sin to be released to new life: Assure us of Christ's presence with us that we may find strength and inspiration to let go of all that imprisons us to sin and move into the new life you are encouraging us to live. In our Savior's name we pray. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

174.....His Name Is Wonderful

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

Forgive us for the masks we wear, Lord, when we try to live the Christian life. That is much easier than making a complete turnabout in our life styles. But it convinces no one that salvation has taken place. Give us the joy of transformed living by letting Christ change us from within and by our living that change from without. Thus, may we find ourselves among those whom your Son came to seek and to save. In his name we pray. Amen.

*** LET'S WORSHIP THE LORD WITH HYMNS:**

273 Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ came to save the least and the lost,
the hopeful and the expectant,
and all who long for fullness of life.

Today, salvation has come to this house of worship,
for in Christ, we are God's beloved children
forgiven and made whole,
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

***SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 19:1-10**

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: "A Life Transformed by Jesus"

*** RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 157Jesus Shall Reign (vs 1, 2 &5)**

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

*** PRAYER HYMN: # 2200 O Lord, Hear My Prayer**

*** CLOSING HYMN: # 177.....He Is Lord**

*** DISMISSAL BLESSING**

1st Scripture Reading: Haggai 2:1-9 (NKJV)

2 In the seventh *month*, on the twenty-first of the month, the word of the LORD came ^[a]by Haggai the prophet, saying: **2** “Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, saying: **3** ‘Who is left among you who saw this ^[b]temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? In comparison with it, *is this* not in your eyes as nothing?’ **4** Yet now be strong, Zerubbabel,’ says the LORD; ‘and be strong, Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; and be strong, all you people of the land,’ says the LORD, ‘and work; for I *am* with you,’ says the LORD of hosts. **5** ‘*According to* the word that I covenanted with you when you came out of Egypt, so My Spirit remains among you; do not fear!’

6 “For thus says the LORD of hosts: ‘Once more (it *is* a little while) I will shake heaven and earth, the sea and dry land; **7** and I will shake all nations, and they shall come to the ^[c]Desire of All Nations, and I will fill this ^[d]temple with glory,’ says the LORD of hosts. **8** ‘The silver *is* Mine, and the gold *is* Mine,’ says the LORD of hosts. **9** ‘The glory of this latter ^[e]temple shall be greater than the former,’ says the LORD of hosts. ‘And in this place I will give peace,’ says the LORD of hosts.”

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 19:1-10 (NKJV)

19 Then *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. **2** Now behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. **3** And he sought to see who *Jesus* was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. **4** So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that *way*. **5** And when *Jesus* came to the place, He looked up ^[a]and saw him, and said to him, “Zacchaeus, ^[b]make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.” **6** So he ^[c]made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. **7** But when they saw *it*, they all ^[d]complained, saying, “He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.”

8 Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold.”

9 And *Jesus* said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; **10** for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

1st Sunday of Lent



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