

INVITATION AND GATHERING

WELCOME

CENTERING WORDS

God's Spirit blows where it will—in here, out there, inside our lives, amongst our church. May the Spirit blow through us this day and speak to us clearly, for we are the children of God.

***SCRIPTURE READING Hebrews 3:1-6**

*** OPENING HYMN: # 277Tell Me the Stories of Jesus**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The call to discipleship is often interrupted by other things which draw our devotion.

People: The attraction of wealth is a real threat to our Christian discipleship.

Leader: Money will not condemn US; but if devotion to wealth hinders our commitment to Christ, then we have a real obstacle.

People: We do not want our possessions to keep us from giving ourselves in full surrender to Christ.

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

Father in heaven, whose Son requires his disciples to be free from the possessive power of wealth: Make us good stewards of our possessions, that what we own may not keep Christ from owning us. In his name we pray. Amen.

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

278 Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Congregation)**

We depend on money to stay alive, Father. But because of its buying power, we let our wealth become almost a god. Forgive us when we keep ourselves and our money from you in order to serve ourselves. Help us to put Christ first, so that the riches we accumulate may not hinder our discipleship. We pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

280 All Glory, Laud, and Honor (vs 1, 3 & 5)

INTRODUCTION TO THE WORD

Now is the right time! Time to listen and learn. Time to dig deep and find courage and strength. Time to receive grace and let that grace grow into faith and love. Now is the right time! Time to listen and learn.

***SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 18:18-30**

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

People: Thanks be to God.

THE WORD MADE FLESH: **"Everyone has questions about eternal life"**

*** RESPONSE TO THE WORD: # 295 In the Cross of Christ I Glory
.....(vs 1, 3 & 5)**

CONGREGATION IN PRAYER: Joys and Concerns

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

*** CLOSING HYMN: # 301 Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross (vs 1)**

*** DISMISSAL BLESSING**

1st Scripture Reading: Hebrews 3:1-6 (NKJV)

Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus, ² who was faithful to Him who appointed Him, as Moses also *was faithful* in all His house. ³ For this One has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses, inasmuch as He who built the house has more honor than the house. ⁴ For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things *is* God. ⁵ And Moses indeed *was faithful* in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which would be spoken *afterward*, ⁶ but Christ as a Son over His own house, whose house we are if we hold fast the confidence and the rejoicing of the hope ^[a] firm to the end.

2nd Scripture Reading: Luke 18:18-30 (NKJV)

¹⁸ Now a certain ruler asked Him, saying, “Good Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁹ So Jesus said to him, “Why do you call Me good? No one *is* good but One, *that is*, God. ²⁰ You know the commandments: ‘Do not commit adultery,’ ‘Do not murder,’ ‘Do not steal,’ ‘Do not bear false witness,’ ‘Honor your father and your mother.’ ”

²¹ And he said, “All these things I have kept from my youth.”

²² So when Jesus heard these things, He said to him, “You still lack one thing. Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

²³ But when he heard this, he became very sorrowful, for he was very rich. With God All Things Are Possible

²⁴ And when Jesus saw that he became very sorrowful, He said, “How hard it is for those who have riches to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ For it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ And those who heard it said, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ But He said, “The things which are impossible with men are possible with God.”

²⁸ Then Peter said, “See, we have left ^[a] all and followed You.”

²⁹ So He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or parents or brothers or wife or children, for the sake of the kingdom of God, ³⁰ who shall not receive many times more in this present time, and in the age to come eternal life.”



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