

Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but, being a short man, he couldn't because of the crowd. So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today." So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus. Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I repay them four times as much." Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this household because he too is a son of Abraham. The Human One came to seek and save the lost."

A word of God, for the people of God... **Thanks be to God.**

SUNDAY, February 25, 2024 8:30 am - Second Sunday in Lent

**Please stand if it is comfortable for you*

PRELUDE

WELCOME & GREETING

SONG OF BEGINNING

Wayfarin Stranger

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who came to seek and save the lost.

People: Let us worship the God who came to seek and save each of us.

Leader: Sometimes we feel too small and insignificant to be noticed by Jesus.

People: Yet, God provides a tree for us to climb to see Jesus or a table for us to eat with Jesus.

Leader: The tree and the table are faithfulness, compassion, love, hope and joy.

People: Let us welcome God into our homes, our hearts and at our tables.

Leader: Let us give of ourselves in this time of worship that we may know God.

All: Let us joyfully and with gratitude worship God!

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 103

*HYMN

*Come, Sinners, to
the Gospel Feast*

*vs. 1-3 & 4
339 Red Hymnal*

SCOUT RECOGNITION

WITNESSING GOD'S LOVE TO OUR CHILDREN

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Jesus the Very Thought of Thee

Lenten Theme: *Come to the Table*

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:1-10

SERMON

Michelangelo's Stone

*HYMN

*Take My Life, and
Let It Be, vs. 1-3*

No. 399
Red Hymnal

A TIME FOR PRAYER

INVITATION TO OFFERING

No. 95 Doxology

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God of mercy, we have come to worship with wounds aching to be healed, with emptiness aching to be filled and with joy waiting to overflow. So often we get sidetracked in sorrow or fear or guilt and we miss your very presence. We want immediate release from our struggles. We cling to ways of being in control in spite of the Spirit who moves beyond our control. We confess the ways we have closed you out of our lives. Yet, you do not cast us off. You do not tell us to come back later. You love us into understanding. You love us into a saving relationship. Touch us in your mercy and forgive us as we make our silent confessions

SUNG RESPONSE

Through it All

No.507
Red Hymnal

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in the faithfulness of God our Creator, whose love is constantly being poured out on us and on our world, and whose purposes are continually revealed to us. We believe in Jesus the Christ who reveals the depth of God's love for us. Christ comes to us in the midst of life offering us healing and hope in our brokenness. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the sustaining and renewing presence of God in our lives and in our world. To walk in the Spirit is to know that each day holds the promise of new life. To live in the Spirit is to experience our lives as a channel of God's love to flow into the world. We believe that God will lead us and strengthen us to share in ministries of love, and that God will use these ministries to renew our world. So may it be. So may we live. Amen.

INVITATION TO ACTION

*CLOSING BLESSING

*SUNG RESPONSE *May You Run and
Not Be Weary*

No. 2281
Black Hymnal

The Prayer of Confession being placed near the end of the service during Lent comes from an old liturgy of the church. It suggests that the hymns, prayers, scriptures and preaching prepare us to open ourselves to God in confession and the assurance of forgiveness. We also remove the 'Alleluias' during Lent, so we will use the more traditional Doxology until Easter.

Participating in Worship:

Rev. Jenny Arneson, Lead Pastor

Rev. Brad Mather, Preaching

Harriet McGaffin, Reader

Singing Churchmen, Music; Stephanie Klein, Director

Sue Lundeen, Organist