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**CALL TO WORSHIP**

adapted from a writing by Joanna Harader

LEADER: You who are poor, why have you come?

**PEOPLE: To hear good news.**

LEADER: You who are brokenhearted, why have you come?

**PEOPLE: To heal our hearts.**

LEADER: You who are captive, why have you come?

**PEOPLE: To hear words of freedom.**

LEADER: You who are prisoners, why have you come?

**PEOPLE: To be released from what binds us.**

LEADER: You who mourn, why have you come?

**PEOPLE: To receive comfort.**

LEADER: All are welcome to gather in worship, where Jesus offers blessing for all.

**HYMN** *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

 #361

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,

let me hide myself in thee;

let the water and the blood,

from thy wounded side which flowed,

be of sin the double cure;

save from wrath and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands

can fulfill thy law’s demands;

could my zeal no respite know,

could my tears forever flow,

all for sin could not atone;

thou must save, and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,

simply to the cross I cling;

naked, come to thee for dress;

helpless, look to thee for grace;

foul, I to the fountain fly;

wash me, Savior, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,

when mine eyes shall close in death,

when I soar to worlds unknown,

see thee on thy judgment throne,

Rock of Ages, cleft for me,

let me hide myself in thee.

Text: Augustus M. Toplady (1776)

Music: Thomas Hastings (1830)

**SCRIPTURE** 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 (NRSV)

12 For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. 13 For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN** *Change My Heart, O God*

 #2152, *Faith We Sing*

Change my heart, oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart, oh God

May I be like You

You are the potter

I am the clay

Mold me and make me

This is what I pray

Change my heart, oh God

Make it ever true

Change my heart, oh God

May I be like You

Words & Music: Eddie Espinosa

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**CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

Annabel Shilson-Thomas

Lord, we wait with eager expectation for the revealing of Your kingdom when the humble will be exalted and the hungry fed.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we prepare for Your appearance with searching minds and contrite hearts, trusting in Your healing Spirit and redemptive love.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we watch with those who wait and weep,

longing to see the rule of justice and the reign of peace.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we seek You among the despised and rejected,

knowing that there we will find Your light shining in the dark.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we proclaim sight to the blind and liberty to the oppressed, trusting in Your tender mercy and passion for justice.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we work with others to proclaim Your truth,

challenging the mighty and raising the meek.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done.**

Lord, we wrestle with our hopes and our fears, our struggles and our joys laboring with creation to come to new birth.

**Your kingdom come, Your will be done**.

Now in the confidence of Christ who opens His kingdom for all, let us pray the prayer He taught us saying:

**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.**

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**OFFERING** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

 #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise him, all creatures here below;

praise him above, ye heavenly host;

praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen.

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 4:14-21 (NRSV)

14 Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. 15 He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

16 When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, 17 and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

18 “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,

 because he has anointed me

 to bring good news to the poor.

He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives

 and recovery of sight to the blind,

 to let the oppressed go free,

19 to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

20 And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. 21 Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE***Indications of Kingdom Work*

 Rev. David W. Brown

**AFFIRMING OUR FAITH**

20th century South African creed

Jesus taught us to speak of hope as the coming of God’s kingdom: Therefore, let us proclaim our hope and faith.

**We believe that God is at work in our world**

**turning hopeless and evil situations into good.**

**We believe that goodness and justice**

**will triumph in the end**

**and that tyranny and oppression cannot last forever.**

**One day all tears will be wiped away;**

**the lamb will lie down with the lion,**

**and justice will roll down like a mighty stream.**

**True peace and true reconciliation are not only desired, they are assured and guaranteed in Christ.**

**This is our faith.**

**This is our hope.**

**HYMN** *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

#2129*, Faith We Sing*

I have decided to follow Jesus,

I have decided to follow Jesus,

I have decided to follow Jesus -

no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me,

the world behind me, the cross before me,

the world behind me, the cross before me -

no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow,

though none go with me, still I will follow,

though none go with me, still I will follow—

no turning back, no turning back.

Text & Music: Anonymous, Public Domain

**BENEDICTION**

based on Isaiah 51

*Listen to Me, My people.*

*My mercy and justice are coming soon.*

*My salvation is on the way.*

*My strong arm will bring justice to the nations.*

*Even faraway lands will look to Me*

*and take hope in My saving power.*

As you go, carry that vision with you.

Let it inspire your work and your witness,

your worship and prayer,

so that, through us, God’s will may be done,

and God’s kingdom come on earth as it is in heaven.

And may the blessing of God,

Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

be among you and within you all. Amen.

*Liturgist at 8:20 – Mark Paluta*

*Liturgist at 9:40 – Jane Florer*

*Gather for coffee and treats in the Atrium following the 9:40 service!*

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| **Creating a lifetime partnership for change.** **Tutoring at JP Parker Elementary in Madisonville** – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30pm :: January—May 2022 Our goal is to provide one hour of weekly, after school highly relational tutoring to at-risk youth. We minister to children who are behind in their achievement levels and would benefit from a stable relationship with a caring adult. Tutors meet after school with the same child each week during the school year to work on basic school subjects and to build positive, caring relationships. *You don’t have to be an educator to make a difference in a child’s life.* Training and supplies are provided. All you have to do is show up and love your student. Sign up at armstrongchapel.org/serve/community, scroll down to Parker Kids Club. Tutors must apply online and pass a background check and be at least 16 years old. Questions or more info? Contact Dianna Sheely at 561-4220 x304. |
| NEW STUDIES**40 Verses to Ignite Your Faith** by Laurie Polich Short. Sometimes we need a fresh word or promise for the season we find ourselves in-something that ignites our faith in the face of fear, doubt, loneliness, insecurity, or overwhelming circumstances.Begins Monday, January 31 at 7pm this 8-week study will be via Zoom.  Facilitated by Dianna Sheely. Study guide will be provided – you will need a copy of Laurie’s book.  This can be purchased through the group by signing up here:  <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E49A5AC2CA4F58-latte> or by visiting <https://laurieshort.com/books-videos/>. **Walking with Jesus** by Matt Regan. Journey together through the land of Israel, visiting many of the places where Jesus lived, walked, and ministered with His disciples. As the land of the Bible comes alive before your eyes, you’ll gain fresh perspective on the life-changing power of Christ’s love and His church’s calling to make disciples who follow after Him. Led by Carol Ney & Serena Tsuang on Mondays at 9:30am on Zoom. Study guides for this class will be provided for this 8-week class. | Friday, January 286:30pm in the Atrium**Popcorn****Hot Chocolate** **Snacks**Invite Friends!  Sponsored by Children & Family Ministries  |
| The men of Armstrong invitetheir wives, teenage sons and daughters, and friends to a special night of good food, fellowship, and comedy from a Kentuckian named the funniest comedian east of the Mississippi! | A six-week Sunday morning series for student Confirmation is planned to begin in February. Participants in **grades 8-12** will be invited to examine key tenants of the Christian faith and provide opportunities to explore best spiritual practices.  For complete class dates and registration, visit: <https://bit.ly/3qEPeCY>.If you have questions, contact Pastor David at dbrown@armstrongchapel.org.  |