

Worship Service

“The Most Costly Artwork You Will Never Spend Any Money On.”

13th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B,

18th August, 2024

Jonah 3:6-4:11 / Mark 4:21-35

Prelude

played by church musician Annie Center,

Opening Music

[*Jonah was a Prophet*](#)

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Welcome / Announcements

I'm glad to welcome you to worship with Olympic View Community Church.

We seek to welcome all of God's children to join us in bearing witness to the radically transforming power of God's love. As we gather today, let's share the joy and peace of Christ with each other by greeting each other as we pass the peace.

Pass the Peace

Opening Hymn

When Morning Gilds the Skies ~ 644

Call to Worship ~ (Based on Ps 89:1-4)

One: I will always sing of your steadfast love, O LORD;

All: I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.

One: I will tell them that your steadfast love never fails;

All: It is more sure than the heavens.

One: You said, “I will establish Christ’s Kingdom forever, and build his church for all generations.”

All: And so we are here, and we will praise him!

Invocation

Our God, you have not left your light hidden. Your light shines. Your voice speaks. Your Spirit is active. As we draw near to you, Help us to see, to listen, to respond.

Wake us and ready us for what lies ahead. Give us hunger and anticipation for the spiritual food we are about to enjoy. Inform our minds, nourish our hearts, enlighten our way; that we - like our Lord Jesus - would be lights in the world.

Scripture Reading ~ Jonah 3:6 - 4:11

The word reached the king of Nineveh, and he arose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes.

And he issued a proclamation and published through Nineveh, "By the decree of the king and his nobles: Let neither man nor beast, herd nor flock, taste anything. Let them not feed or drink water, but let man and beast be covered with sackcloth, and let them call out mightily to God. Let everyone turn from his evil way and from the violence that is in his hands.

Who knows? God may turn and relent and turn from his fierce anger, so that we may not perish."

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry.

And he prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster.

Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

And the LORD said, "Do you do well to be angry?"

Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city.

Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant.

But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered.

When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

But God said to Jonah, "Do you do well to be angry for the plant?" And he said, "Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die."

And the LORD said, "You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night.

And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?"

A Time of Prayer

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Today we come together as a community to share together our joys and concerns, and lift them to God in prayer.

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Jesus Came - the Heavens Adoring ~ 297

Sermon Passage ~ Mark 4:21-35

And he said to them, "Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand?"

For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light.

If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."

And he said to them, "Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you.

For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away."

And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground.

He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how.

The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.

But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

And he said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it?"

It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side."

Message ~ *"The Most Costly Artwork You Will Never Spend Money On."*
Rev. Jonny Finlayson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Call to Serve

As you have been fed by Christ; go feed the hungry.

As you have been set free by the gospel; go to set free all kinds of prisoners.

As you have received; give.

As you have heard the word; proclaim it to others.

As God has worked gracious redemption and sanctification in you; testify to it.

As you see God's righteousness and peace around you; point it out.

And in everything, where there is need beyond you, blessing unearned by you, sorrow that threatens you, or joy that overwhelms you; pray.

As we listen to Annie play, reflect on where Christ might be calling you to extend his grace.

A Time for Reflection Played by church musician Annie Center

Hymn *God of Grace and God of Glory ~ 366*

Benediction Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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