

Worship Service ~ *Mistaken Jesus*
11th Sunday after Pentecost, Year B,
4th August, 2024
Ruth 1:1-18 / Mark 3:20-35

Prelude played by church musician Annie Center,

Opening Music ~  *I Will Follow w/ Lyrics (Chris Tomlin)*

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<https://youtu.be/fWk9I26nX5w> posted to YouTube by Pastor Madeline of First United Methodist Church - Luling, TX,

Welcome / Announcements

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

Please stand in body or spirit as you are able and join together in singing the opening hymn

Opening Hymn ***There is a Place of Quiet Rest*** **~ 5**

Call to Worship

One: To all who are lonely, and need a community;

All: Christ says, "Come to me"

One: To all who are afraid, and need comfort;

All: Christ says, "Come to me, I am gentle and lowly in heart"

One: To all who are exhausted, and need rest;

All: Christ says, "Come to me, all who are weary"

One: To all who are sinful, and need a savior;

All: Christ says, "Come to me all who are heavily burdened, and I will give rest for your souls."

Invocation

Father of mercy - we often lose our love, our hope, and our light. But we come to your Son who is abounding in love; and through your Spirit who fills us with hope. We believe that in your light our sight will pierce the darkness as in the daytime.

So help us to worship you in expectation and in delight, in Spirit and in truth. In Christ's name, Amen.

Old Testament Reading ~ Ruth 1:1-18

In the days when the judges ruled there was a famine in the land, and a man of Bethlehem in Judah went to sojourn in the country of Moab, he and his wife and his two sons.

The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion. They were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there.

But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons.

These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. They lived there about ten years,

and both Mahlon and Chilion died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she arose with her daughters-in-law to return from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the fields of Moab that the LORD had visited his people and given them food.

So she set out from the place where she was with her two daughters-in-law, and they went on the way to return to the land of Judah.

But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go, return each of you to her mother's house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me.

The LORD grant that you may find rest, each of you in the house of her husband!" Then she kissed them, and they lifted up their voices and wept.

And they said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people."

But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters; why will you go with me? Have I yet sons in my womb that they may become your husbands?"

Turn back, my daughters; go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. If I should say I have hope, even if I should have a husband this night and should bear sons,

would you therefore wait till they were grown? Would you therefore refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, for it is exceedingly bitter to me for your sake that the hand of the LORD has gone out against me.”

Then they lifted up their voices and wept again. And Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her.

And she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.”

But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you or to return from following you. For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God.

Where you die I will die, and there will I be buried. May the LORD do so to me and more also if anything but death parts me from you.”

And when Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more.

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

Prayer by pastor

Hymn

***Be Thou My Vision* ~ 545**

Sermon Passage ~ Mark 3:20-35

Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat.

And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, “He is out of his mind.”

And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, “He is possessed

by Beelzebul,” and “by the prince of demons he casts out the demons.”

And he called them to him and said to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan?”

If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand.

And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but is coming to an end.

But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man. Then indeed he may plunder his house.

“Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter,

but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” —

for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

And his mother and his brothers came, and standing outside they sent to him and called him.

And a crowd was sitting around him, and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers are outside, seeking you.”

And he answered them, “Who are my mother and my brothers?”

And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers!

For whoever does the will of God, he is my brother and sister and mother.”

Message ~ [Mistaken Jesus](#)

Rev. Jonny Finlayson

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Call to Serve

The Lord is our safe place. We have seen in fresh ways that he will not fail to protect and take care of us. Even through suffering and hardship, Christ is our shepherd and guardian.

There are many in the world who are unprotected and vulnerable. Many who do not know about the refuge of Christ; may we call them to come find rest with us. There are many who are abused and oppressed; may we be the protection and refuge of Christ to them. 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 (Video) ***O Jesus, I have promised ~ 447***

Benediction Short prayer by pastor

Postlude played by church musician Annie Center,

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