

**Sunday October 17, 2021  
What Is It You Really Want?**

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Stewardship Moment

Liisa Granfors-Hunt

**Call to Worship** *(Mark 10:35-45)*

Leader: We may come here for a glimpse of glory,  
**People:** **But Jesus asks us: “Can you drink the cup that I drink?”**  
Leader: The cup of Jesus’ own life: struggle and joy; suffering and hope.  
Fullness of life! We may come here to get close to Jesus,  
**People:** **And Jesus asks us: “Can you be baptized with my baptism?”**  
Leader: Baptized into the reign of God, where the Spirit breaks down barriers  
among all people and creates new relationships!  
We may come here for honor or fame,  
**People:** **But Jesus challenges us: “To become great you must serve!”**  
Leader: Why are we here?  
**People:** **To drink the cup of fullness of life;  
To immerse ourselves in Jesus’ struggle for justice and peace;  
To learn how to serve so that the world may be healed.**

Opening Prayer **Unison**

**Holy Dwelling Place,  
Your tent is wide enough to provide  
shelter for all who seek you,  
food for all who hunger, and  
healing for all who suffer.  
Meet us here today, and fill us with confidence in your presence,  
that we may risk sharing Jesus’ cup and his baptism  
so the world may become  
the place of love and justice you desire for all.  
Shelter us with your light,  
and clothe us with your heavenly garments.  
Teach us how we may best serve ourselves and one another  
on this daring adventure. Amen.**

**Hymn #522: I Love to Tell the Story**  
(Please see separate attachment for the score)

Hymn Leader: Ken Littlefield

1) I love to tell the story of unseen things above,  
Of Jesus' radiant glory, of Jesus' endless love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true;  
it satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

Refrain:

I love to tell the story; and when I am in glory  
I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love.

2) I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
than all the golden visions of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story, I tell it now to you  
because I want to share it, because I know it's true. [Refrain]

3) I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems  
than all the golden visions of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard  
the message of salvation from God's own holy Word. [Refrain]

4) I love to tell the story, for those who know it best  
seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.  
And when I sing in glory, I know the new, new song  
will be the old, old story that I have loved so long. [Refrain]

**Prayer of Confession Unison**

((Isaiah 53:4-12))

**Divine Shepherd, like sheep we go our own ways.  
With our heads to the ground and our attention turned elsewhere,  
we often fail to heed the gentle nudge of your staff and your calls for home.  
With so many things to distract us—  
work, school, and the general busyness of life—  
we lie unresponsive to your calls to kin-dom service.**

*Moments for Reflection and Silence*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Protector Jesus, you came among us  
in order to shelter us from the cold of night and forests of danger.  
In your presence, we are in green pastures!  
In you we are forgiven, and called once again to serve,  
and create with you a world of justice and peace for all.

## **Passing of the Peace**

Pastor:       The Peace of Christ be with you  
People:       **And also with you!**

## **Reading**

Liisa Granfors-Hunt

### **Job 38:1-7, (34-38) (NIV)**

38:1 Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind:

38:2 "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge?

38:3 Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

38:4 "Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding.

38:5 Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it?

38:6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone

38:7 when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy?

38:34 "Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you?

38:35 Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'?

38:36 Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind?

38:37 Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens,

38:38 when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?

38:41 Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

## **Special Music**

Ken Littlefield

## **Gospel Reading**

## **Mark 10:35-45 (NIV)**

10:35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you."

10:36 And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?"

10:37 And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory."

10:38 But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

10:39 They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized;

10:40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

10:41 When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John.

10:42 So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them.

10:43 But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant,

10:44 and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all.

10:45 For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."

## **Musical Interlude**

**Sermon:** What Is It You Really Want?

## **Music for Meditation**

## **Prayers of the People**

**Hymn #537** Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed (verses 1 and 2)

**1) Christian, rise and act your creed;  
let your prayer be in your deed;  
Seek the right, perform the true,  
raise your work and life anew.**

**2) Hearts around you sink with care,  
you can help their load to bear;  
You can bring inspiring light,  
strengthen them to do the right.**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer Unison**

**Offering Invitation**

Jesus came not to be served but to serve.  
Let us follow this example and share our gifts  
so that we may also experience the joys and challenges of serving.

**Offering and Dedication Unison**

**Parent God, may this offering assist us  
in continuing Christ's work in the world  
to heal the grief, transgressions, and illnesses  
that oppress and harm your creation. Amen.**

**Benediction Unison**

**Our lives are filled with struggles and suffering—  
none of us are immune.  
The key to full life in Christ is not to rise above it,  
but to struggle together and help one another along the way,  
knowing that God is with us in every moment.  
This is service.  
If we seek to serve and lift one another up,  
committing to struggle together,  
together we will witness Christ's glory.  
So be it!**