

**Sunday January 30, 2022  
The Prophet's Edge**

**Prelude**

**Words of Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

Leader: O God of Change and Stillness, of Wounds and Repair,  
**People: in you we find our sense of balance—a place to land and to breathe.**  
Leader: May we grow our attention towards that which gives life,  
**People: and cultivate connections of community and care.**  
Leader: May grace touch all that changes us,  
**People: and all that we hold unfold with peace.**  
Leader: May we gather in this space claiming healing as our birthright,  
**All: Let us come together to transform ourselves to transform the world,  
and move like living water—ever adapting, ever faithful, ever full of  
all that can be. Amen.**

**Opening Prayer Unison**

**O God of Flesh and Bone,  
your Word echoes deep within us  
and turns our heartbeat into a song.  
May we linger for a moment in this embodied blessing.  
May we enter this time of worship with an embodied awareness of God's  
sacredness within us. Amen.**

**Hymn #161: Amen, Amen**  
*(Please see separate attachment for the score)*

*Hymn Leader: GCC Choir*

Intro:  
A-men, a-men, a-men, a-men

Verses:

- 1) O see the little baby lying in a manger on Christmas morning.
- 2) See Jesus in the temple talking to the elders; how they all marveled!
- 3) See Jesus at the seashore preaching to the people, \_\_\_ healing all the sick ones!
- 4) See Jesus on the cross bearing all my sins....in bitter agony!
- 5) Yes, Jesus died to save us, rose on Easter morning, and lives forever!
- 6) We're singing Alleluia! Jesus is my Savior, who lives forever!

### A Litany for Collective Care **Unison**

Leader: O Great Flow of Life, who feels our inhale and exhale all in the same breath anchor us in your assurance.

**People: May we rest in the alignment of this moment in the abundance of you and our right to belong.**

Leader: O Liberator of Loneliness, who cuts down privilege and recenters the margins, you have shown us how to be free is to be beloved.

**People: Because there is strength in vulnerability and wisdom in intimacy, to be free is to be beloved.**

Leader: Because we are found in the web that lifts us not the bootstraps that bind us down, to be free is to be beloved.

**People: Because our own resurrections heal our stressed or broken hearts we arise in freedom as your beloved.**

Leader: So, let us hold fast to our God in between us, and

**People: to the collective of care alongside us today. Amen.**

*Moments for Reflection and Silence*

### Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you

**People: And also with you!**

### Reading

Karen Jones

### Jeremiah 1:4-10 (NRSV)

<sup>4</sup> The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

<sup>5</sup> "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
before you were born I set you apart;  
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

<sup>6</sup> "Alas, Sovereign LORD," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am too young."

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. <sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.

<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup> See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

## **Special Music**

Rachel Alexander

## **Gospel Reading**

### **Luke 4:21-30 (NRSV)**

<sup>21</sup> He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

<sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” they asked.

<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to them, “Surely you will quote this proverb to me: ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ And you will tell me, ‘Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.’”

<sup>24</sup> “Truly I tell you,” he continued, “no prophet is accepted in his hometown. <sup>25</sup> I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. <sup>26</sup> Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. <sup>27</sup> And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian.”

<sup>28</sup> All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

## **Musical Interlude**

**Sermon:** The Prophet’s Edge

## **Music for Meditation**

## Prayers of the People

### Hymn #510 Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive You (verses 1, 2 and 4)

- 1) Grant us wisdom to perceive you, hearts awakened to receive you, minds alert to thoughts that grieve you, God of mercy, hear us.
- 2) Grant us faithfulness in praying, strength to keep our souls from straying, sense to cease from disobeying, God of mercy, hear us.
- 4) Grant us courage to proclaim you, Savior of our lives we name you! May our actions never shame you; God of mercy, hear us.

## Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer **Unison**

### Offering Invitation

O God of loaves and fishes, of bread and of wine, we bring before you our diversity of gifts, knowing that they will be multiplied for the benefit of many.

### Offering and Dedication **Unison**

**O God of resurrection, who makes all things new, accept our offering to both give and receive, trusting that there is abundance in togetherness, and generosity in you. Amen.**

### Benediction **Unison**

**Beloveds, we have claimed our place in the ecosystem of the Spirit—alive, connected, and emergent with grace. Let us go forth from this fertile ground, ripening the wisdom we have found through justice, care, and compassion. And so, may the blessing of our Communal Creator replenish us all today and always. Amen.**