

3rd Sunday after the Epiphany – January 21, 2024 – 10:30am

Order of Worship

The Community Gathers

Lighting of Altar Candles

Prelude –

A Word of Greeting and Welcome/Centering Words ~

Minister Ainise Isama'u

God is not a taskmaster keeping track of our good deeds. Rather, God intervenes boldly and relentlessly for the purpose of life and the restoration of creation.

Opening Hymn* - *"Gather Us In"* TFWS 2236

Angela Gricar, Accompanist

Giving God Glory As We Come To Worship

Call to Worship (L: Leader P: People)-

Bryan Hori

L: Gathered in worship with silence and sound,

P: we wait upon God's grace.

L: Gathered in worship with focused heart and mind,

P: we anticipate the time we face.

Opening Prayer

Bryan Hori

God of unifying grace, we come distracted by the world. Our minds wander and are filled with thoughts other than you. Our hearts are confused, and we are uncertain where we belong. Call us to follow you once more. Redeem the night and bless the day that greets us this morning. May your relentless ways never fail as we strive to live as your beloved people. Amen.

Message for the Children (In Us All)

Minister Ainise Isama'u

Congregational Hymn – *"Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me"* UMH 361

Angela Gricar, Accompanist

The Word of God for the people of God

Scripture Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 & Mark 1:14-20

Bryan Hori

The Lord's word came to Jonah a second time: ²"Get up and go to Nineveh, that great city, and declare against it the proclamation that I am commanding you." ³And Jonah got up and went to Nineveh, according to the Lord's word. (Now Nineveh was indeed an enormous city, a three days' walk across.)

⁴ Jonah started into the city, walking one day, and he cried out, “Just forty days more and Nineveh will be overthrown!” ⁵ And the people of Nineveh believed God. They proclaimed a fast and put on mourning clothes, from the greatest of them to the least significant.

¹⁰ God saw what they were doing—that they had ceased their evil behavior. So God stopped planning to destroy them, and he didn’t do it.

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God’s good news, ¹⁵ saying, “Now is the time! Here comes God’s kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!”

¹⁶ As Jesus passed alongside the Galilee Sea, he saw two brothers, Simon and Andrew, throwing fishing nets into the sea, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ “Come, follow me,” he said, “and I’ll show you how to fish for people.” ¹⁸ Right away, they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹ After going a little farther, he saw James and John, Zebedee’s sons, in their boat repairing the fishing nets. ²⁰ At that very moment he called them. They followed him, leaving their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired workers.

L: The Word of God for all people

P: Thanks be to God

Special Music – “*Lord of the Dance*”

Faith Chancel Choir

Sermon: ~ “There’s Always a Catch”

Rev. Allison Mark

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Allison Mark

We Respond to God’s grace

Offering Our Gifts ~

Minister Ainise Isama’u

Doxology* “*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*” UMH 94

Angela Gricar, Accompanist

***Offertory – Prayer of Dedication**

Bryan Hori

Restorer of divided hearts, bless our gifts this morning. Make our offering a path to holy living and action. May our very lives reflect the truth of our faith and our commitment to your world. With generous hearts, we pray. Amen.

Going Forth in God's Holy Name

Faith In Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC –

Minister Ainise Isama’u

Closing Hymn* ~ “*God of Grace and God of Glory*” UMH 577

Angela Gricar, Accompanist

Commission and Blessings * -

Rev. Allison Mark

Passing of the Peace* - Postlude