

## *Worship for Sunday, March 22, 2020*



In this image from the Jesus Mafa Art Project, we can see the man in the fancy robes dropping a large coin into the 'coffer.' The woman, in contrast, carrying not only her baby but also goods upon her head as she goes about her work for the day, places in two small copper coins. In Mark's gospel Jesus reminds us that others have contributed out of their abundance, but as she has contributed out of her poverty, this woman has put in more than all the rest.

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**

**Brandon Clayton**

### **GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Knowing that we fall short of God's dream for us, let us pray together, confessing our sin before one another, assured of God's forgiveness.

**We come, dear Lord, to worship and praise you with all our heart, soul, mind and strength. In you we find the source of our being, the foundation of love, and the wellspring of relationship.**

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It is to you we turn this day, from the uncertainty of such times, with all our cares and concerns, joys and worries, for we give thanks that you journey with us, knowing us as a loving parent knows their child.

And yet, Lord, we also recognize that we get it wrong so often in life; we make bad decisions, we think solely of ourselves, we neglect the harm we do to others, and we fail to contribute to your Kingdom.

Forgive us, Lord, and may we be encouraged to step forward again, not looking back, that our lives, our words, our deeds, our thoughts might be infused with the wonder and joy of your perfect presence. Amen.

*Time for Silent Personal Confession*

### **\*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Let us live peacefully, in the knowledge of God's grace. Let us be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as Christ has forgiven us. And let us declare together the good news of the Gospel:

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, thanks be to God!**

**\*RESPONSE TO FORGIVENESS      Lord, Have Mercy      GTG 551**

### **PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

#### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

#### **READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

Mark 12:28-44

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other'; and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices." When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." After that no one dared to ask him any question.

While Jesus was teaching in the temple, he said, "How can the scribes say that the Messiah is the son of David? David himself, by the Holy Spirit, declared,

'The Lord said to my Lord,  
"Sit at my right hand,  
until I put your enemies under your feet."'

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David himself calls him Lord; so how can he be his son?" And the large crowd was listening to him with delight.

As he taught, he said, "Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows' houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation."

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. **Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM**

***Owe No Man Anything Save to Love One Another***

**FPC Quartet**

**TIME WITH CHILDREN**

**Pastor Derek**

**SERMON**

**Pastor Meg**

### **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

**\*WORSHIP IN SONG**

**625—O Lord My God**

**WORSHIP WITH OUR GIVING**

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**#608**

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

### **SENDING OUT INTO THE WORLD**

**\* BENEDICTION**

**\* CLOSING HYMN**

**Go Now in Peace**

**POSTLUDE**

**Brandon Clayton**