



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

October 11, 2020

*Connecting with the Community,
Growing Disciples, and Serving Jesus Christ*

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website
PantherValleyChurch.org*

FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Holy One is speaking your name:

Come, join in the worship of our God.

The Spirit is moving among us, whispering to you:

Come, join in the worship of our God.

Jesus is calling you to follow him:

Come, join the worship of our God.

Listen and feel and know the voice of God:

Join the body of Christ, and may we worship our God together.

GATHERING PRAYER

When nothing is right, when we are weary and lost, when clouds dull the sky, help us to be still.

When our cries are unheeded, when no effort bears fruit, when the sun sets, help us to be still.

When love is over, when hope is gone, when darkness covers the land, help us to be still.

For in being still, in refusing to panic or despair, we shall come to know that God is there, suffering alongside and with us, waiting to show us stepping-stones through the swirling waters, and to help us sing a new song.

SONG *Sanctuary*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Though we run hot and cold, fickle and changing in our faith, your love remains certain and constant. Though we grow tired and disillusioned, bored and distracted far too easily, your love stays true to the end. Though we allow our grief and anger, to turn us away from grace and mercy, your love refuses to let go. We praise and thank you, O God, for your relentless love, for its abundant availability, and for so flooding our lives with love, that some must, inevitably overflow and warm others with its touch. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalms 26 Common English Bible

Establish justice for me, Lord, because I have walked with integrity. I've trusted the Lord without wavering.

Examine me, Lord; put me to the test! Purify my mind and my heart.

Because your faithful love is right in front of me— I walk in your truth!

I don't spend time with people up to no good; I don't keep company with liars. I detest the company of evildoers, and I don't sit with wicked people. I wash my hands—they are innocent! I walk all around your altar, Lord, proclaiming out loud my thanks, declaring all your wonderful deeds! I love the beauty of your house, Lord; I love the place where your glory resides.

Don't gather me up with the sinners, taking my life along with violent people in whose hands are evil schemes, whose strong hands are full of bribes. But me? I walk with integrity. Save me! Have mercy on me! My feet now stand on level ground. I will bless the Lord in the great congregation.

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

A man in the land of Uz was named Job. That man was honest, a person of absolute integrity; he feared God and avoided evil.

One day the divine beings came to present themselves before the Lord. The Adversary also came among them to present himself before the Lord. The Lord said to the Adversary, "Where have you come

from?”

The Adversary answered the Lord, “From wandering throughout the earth.”

The Lord said to the Adversary, “Have you thought about my servant Job, for there is no one like him on earth, a man who is honest, who is of absolute integrity, who reveres God and avoids evil? He still holds on to his integrity, even though you incited me to ruin him for no reason.”

The Adversary responded to the Lord, “Skin for skin—people will give up everything they have in exchange for their lives. 5 But stretch out your hand and strike his bones and flesh. Then he will definitely curse you to your face.”

The Lord answered the Adversary, “There he is—within your power; only preserve his life.”

The Adversary departed from the Lord’s presence and struck Job with severe sores from the sole of his foot to the top of his head. Job took a piece of broken pottery to scratch himself and sat down on a mound of ashes. Job’s wife said to him, “Are you still clinging to your integrity? Curse God, and die.”

Job said to her, “You’re talking like a foolish woman. Will we receive good from God but not also receive bad?” In all this, Job didn’t sin with his lips.

MESSAGE *Questions, Questions, Questions*

PASTORAL PRAYER

LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We thank You, Generous God. You have filled our lives with abundance and we thank You! May we be Your channels of blessing to those in need. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

We go imprinted by God’s love. We go imitating Christ. We go invigorated by the Spirit. We go imagining the world made new. Renewed in God’s image, we go!

POSTLUDE

Credits: Today’s Liturgy is adapted from: Call to Worship, Rev. Mindi. Gathering Prayer, Kate Compston. Prayer of Confession, John van de Laar, Sending Forth, Todd and Jennifer Pick.

Song; Sanctuary sung by the Van Dongen Family

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Bible Study on Zoom:

Monday Night at 7pm *God’s Answers to Life’s Difficult Questions*

Wednesday Morning at 10am *Who Is This Man?*

Wednesday Night at 7pm *Present Over Perfect*

Care and Nurture Prayer Shawls and Palm Prayer Squares are in the coat closet outside Fellowship Hall. People can take a bag to give to anyone who is in need of support and comfort.

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