



everything
[in] between
righteousness & mercy



SAINT LUKE'S
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

April 6, 2025 10:30 am



In Preparation for Worship

“It’s striking that Jesus never called Zacchaeus out—no loud shaming, no public humiliation. Rather, this seems like the gentlest calling-in.” *–Rev. Jeff Chu*

Prelude

I Come with Joy
arr. Gilbert M. Martin

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship*

Leader: We come to worship because we long for mercy.

People: We long for community. We long for God.

Leader: We come to worship because we need a good word.

People: We need connection. We need moral reminders.

Leader: We come to worship because we are in between:

People: hope and grief, faith and doubt, joy and longing, curiosity and conviction.

Leader: So, we come to worship and God meets us here.

People: Surely, we are not alone. Thanks be to God for meeting us in the middle! Amen.

Opening Hymn* 22

God of the Sparrow

Prayer of Confession*

Merciful God,

When we fail to be righteous,
show us mercy.

When we fail to be merciful,
show us what is right.

Again and again,
bring us closer to you.

Again and again,
show us the way.

With hope we pray, also with the quiet prayers of our hearts...

(a moment of silence is kept for personal prayers)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness*

Song of Thanksgiving * 582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit,
whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 19:1-10

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

All children are invited to come forward for Tell Us Our Story. Afterwards, parents will walk their children to Room 120 for "ABC's of the Bible" (ages PreK and K) or Room 117 for childcare (birth through 3's.) Since this is Family Worship Sunday, all elementary children will remain in worship with their families so that they may participate in Communion. Worship books and other faith formation resources are available on the worship carts and ledges in the Chapel narthex. At the conclusion of worship, any family seeking to learn more about children and communion may come to the front of the Sanctuary to learn more about communion from a pastor and receive resources to continue the conversation at home.

Sermon

Up a Tree

Michael Sanchez

Affirmation of Faith*

from A Sanctified Art

**In a world that loves to cast blame
and point fingers,
Jesus loved by different rules.
He offered mercy.
He invited people to dinner.
He told stories of love.
He chose to see the best in others.
We believe that small acts of mercy
and compassion have ripple effects in our lives.
We believe that small acts of righteousness
and justice are integral to a life of faith.
So, like Christ, we believe in
offering mercy,
inviting people to dinner,
telling stories of love,
and choosing to see the best in others.
With God's help, may it be so. Amen.**

Holy Communion

Invitation to Table

Prayers of Thanksgiving and the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion Music 506 Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table! Chancel Choir &
Congregation

The Offering

Umoja Tunaimba Chancel Choir
Victor C. Johnson Daryl Moore, djembe

Umoja tunaimba! United we sing!
Umoja tunaimba! We stand as one in unity!

We lift our voices and we join our hearts singing songs of justice and peace.
We stand together as the children of God bringing hope to humanity.

We will sing for peace! We will sing for joy!
We will sing for justice! We will sing!

Closing Hymn* 828

More Love to Thee, O Christ

Benediction*

Choral Amen*

Postlude*

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee
arr. Paul Karvonen

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