

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

O God of creation, you rule over land and sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- ❖ Jesus was God spelling God's self out in language humanity could understand. *S.D. Gordon* (evangelical lay minister)
- Not only do we not know God except through Jesus Christ; We do not even know ourselves except through Jesus Christ. Blaise Pascal (Mathematician and Philospher)

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Leader: Let us come together, all who find their safety in God's loving care.

People: For the dangers of the world are many and on our own we are

weak.

Leader: But the Lord stands mighty against all evil that would harm us

People: Let us then hold to God as the center in the midst of temptation.

Leader: Let us lift our voices with joy for God's loving care.

All: Blessed be the name of the Lord!

PRAISE SONG: Wind and Cold Roar (music at end of bulletin)

THE CONFESSION:

One: Let us confess to God and before one another our sins and especially our failure to seek God's leadership.

All: We confess to you, O God, and before one another that we have sinned. You call us to follow you into a life that is abundant and eternal but we insist on going our own way which leads to death and destruction. We claim we are disciples and followers of Jesus but we abandon his teachings for our own. Forgive us for our wrong thinking and give us hearts that desire to follow the good so that we may truly be your children and part of your holy family. Amen.

One: God loves us and always welcomes us back into the flock that we so often desert. Receive God's loving embrace and share it with those you encounter this week.

CONFESSION RESPONSE: Cry Mercy (music at end of bulletin)

THE LESSON: Genesis 3:1-21

Here is a story of deception, buck-passing, and judgment at the start of this first biblical book, Genesis, which means beginnings. This reading is sometimes called the Fall of Humankind involving Adam, Eve, the Serpent, and the creator of all, God.

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, 'Did God say, "You shall not eat from any tree in the garden"?' The woman said to the serpent, 'We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, "You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." 'But the serpent said to the woman, 'You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.' So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The LORD God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this,

cursed are you among all animals

and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go,

ipon your belly you shall go

and dust you shall eat

all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,

and between your offspring and hers;

he will strike your head,

and you will strike his heel.'

To the woman he said,

'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing;

in pain you shall bring forth children,

yet your desire shall be for your husband,

and he shall rule over you.'

And to the man he said,

'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife,

and have eaten of the tree

about which I commanded you,

"You shall not eat of it",

cursed is the ground because of you;

in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you;

and you shall eat the plants of the field.

By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'

The man named his wife Eve, because she was the mother of all who live. And the LORD God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them.

THE GOSPEL: Mark 3:20-27

Jesus care for people was often confusing to some as to what He was seeking, whether He was under the control of another power, and if His family should stop Him. All of this is present in this story from His life.

and the crowd came together again, so that they could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered.

'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.'

MESSAGE: "How to Recognize Sin- Well Sort of..." - Pastor David School

MESSAGE RESPONSE: God, Are You Tired? (music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and 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, and the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

Leader: Pardoned by God's abounding grace, empowered by God's constant love and protected by God's peace, let us go forth to serve God and others, always humbly aware of our own shortcomings, but always encouraged by the faithful and loving presence of God in Christ Jesus, to whom be glory and power, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SENDING SONG: Lead Us Out (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

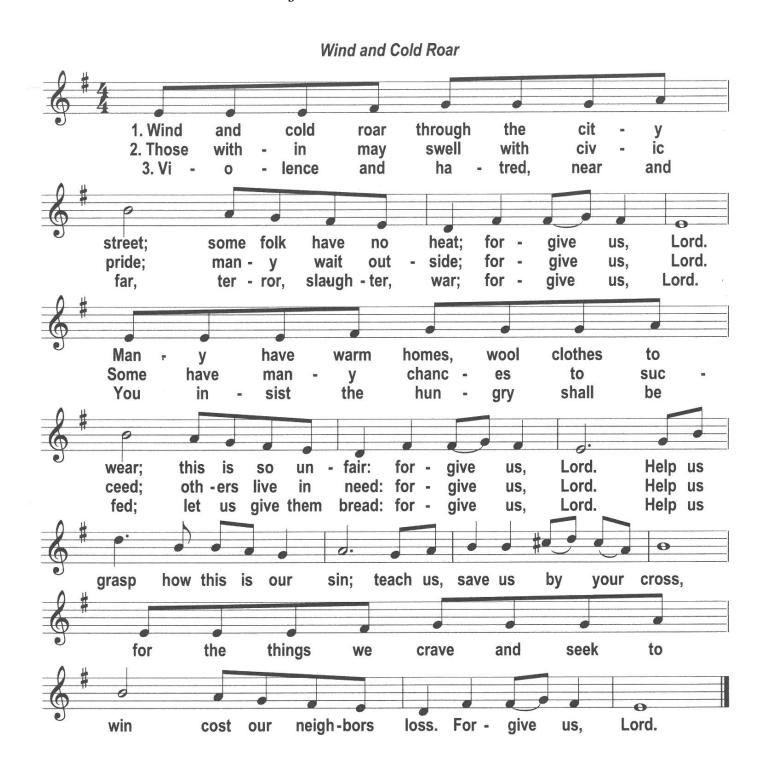


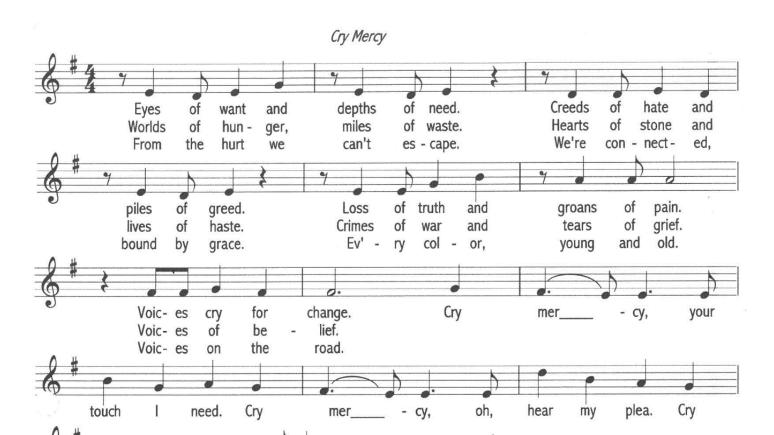
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God Are You Tired



