

Sunday, February 21, 2021

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

GOD'S GREETING

SONG OF PRAISE

Lift High the Name of Jesus, Getty

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Word of God incarnate, you came to this world to accomplish salvation. By your grace you call us to repent, to be crucified with you, that we might be raised as new creations. But we confess that often we "go with the flow" instead of stemming sin's tide. Forgive us when we do not show evidence of renewal. Forgive us when we let the fruit of the Spirit be choked by the weeds of evil. You have made us your children, members of your kingdom. Help us to show evidence of that every day as we work to bring your justice, peace, gentleness, goodness, love, joy, and hope to all we meet. For Jesus sake,

ALL: Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF RESPONSE

How Firm a Foundation, Rippon

SONG OF PREPARATION

Speak, O Lord, Getty

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 11:12-33

Jesus Curses a Fig Tree and Clears the Temple Courts

¹² The next day as they were leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. ¹³ Seeing in the distance a fig tree in leaf, he went to find out if it had any fruit. When he reached it, he found nothing but leaves, because it was not the season for figs. ¹⁴ Then he said to the tree, "May no one ever eat fruit from you again." And his disciples heard him say it. ¹⁵ On reaching Jerusalem, Jesus entered the temple courts and began driving out those who were buying and selling there. He overturned the tables of the money changers and the benches of those selling doves, ¹⁶ and would not allow anyone to carry merchandise through the temple courts. ¹⁷ And as he taught them, he said, "Is it not written: 'My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations'? But you have made it 'a den of robbers.'" ¹⁸ The chief priests and the teachers of the law heard this and began looking for a way to kill him, for they feared him, because the whole crowd was amazed at his teaching. ¹⁹ When evening came, Jesus and his disciples went out of the city.

²⁰ In the morning, as they went along, they saw the fig tree withered from the roots.

²¹ Peter remembered and said to Jesus, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree you cursed has withered!”

²² “Have faith in God,” Jesus answered. ²³ “Truly I tell you, if anyone says to this mountain, ‘Go, throw yourself into the sea,’ and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them. ²⁴ Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. ²⁵ And when you stand praying, if you hold anything against anyone, forgive them, so that your Father in heaven may forgive you your sins.”

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

²⁷ They arrived again in Jerusalem, and while Jesus was walking in the temple courts, the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders came to him. ²⁸ “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you authority to do this?”

²⁹ Jesus replied, “I will ask you one question. Answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. ³⁰ John’s baptism—was it from heaven, or of human origin? Tell me!”

³¹ They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ ³² But if we say, ‘Of human origin’ ...” (They feared the people, for everyone held that John really was a prophet.) ³³ So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.” Jesus said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

SERMON

Monday Authority: Cursing, Cleansing, and Confrontation

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD

Access of West Michigan

SONG OF RESPONSE

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, Thomerson

GOD’S BLESSING

CLOSING PRAISE

God So Loved, Bergthold

Song License: CCLI #337332

Preacher: Rev. Darrin Compagner

Musicians: Joan Van Dyke, Phil Van Eck, Aaron Polet, Faith Van’t Land, Jim Nyhoff

Offering: Access of West Michigan

Through their Congregation Connections, Good Food Systems Initiative, and Poverty Education programs, Access of West Michigan works to cultivate solutions to issues of poverty. Access works together with community stakeholders to create sustainable outcomes through charitable contributions, grants, and earned income.

SHAWNEE *park*
CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH