

## WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday April 7<sup>th</sup>

OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\*SONG OF WELCOME

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus said,

**"Follow me."**

Jesus said,

**"Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."**

Jesus said,

**"Forgive seventy times seven."**

Jesus said,

**"Feed my sheep."**

In response, we say:

**"Here's my heart.**

**Take and seal it.**

**Seal it for thy courts above."**

Let us worship God with all our hearts.

CALL TO CONFESSION (Liturgist)

For the last seven weeks we have been following the life and faith of

Peter. Despite being one of

Jesus' most loyal disciples, Peter still made mistakes. He was faithful and

messy, humble and afraid,

loving and cautious.

Friends, we're a lot like Peter.

Despite our faith, we make mistakes.

Despite our belief, we carry unbelief.

Despite our love, we can cause hurt.  
So like Peter, let us return to God in prayer, confessing the truth of our lives.  
God's grace does not stop with that humble yet fearful disciple.  
God's grace reaches all the way to us. Let us pray:

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God,  
Like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink.  
You tell us your truth and we push it away.  
We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance.  
We profess our faith and deny it three times.  
We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence.  
Over and over again, we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith.  
Tether us to your heart. Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination.  
Call us out of the boat once more. We are eager to return to you. With humble hearts we pray, amen.**

#### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS (Liturgist)

Friends, the first time that Peter saw Jesus after the crucifixion, Jesus asked him three times, "Do you love me?" This repetition was not because Jesus doubted Peter's word. This repetition was Jesus offering Peter grace.

You see, the last time Jesus and Peter were together, Peter said three times, "I do not know that man." So when Jesus returned, he asked Peter, "Do you love me?" And in that moment, he allowed Peter to turn his denials into love.

Friends, the grace of our God knows no end. When we stumble, when we fall, when we deny God or

cause harm, Jesus meets us where we are and offers us a second chance. So rest in this good news.

Does God love you? Yes, yes, yes. God loves you.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God for a love that never ends.

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER      Hallelu, Hallelujah

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

ANTHEM:

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (pastor)

God of second chances  
and God of new life,  
we have spent our days wandering.  
Like Peter, we have had milled about  
through nearly every state of faith.  
We have had courageous days  
and convicted days,  
learning days  
and questioning days.  
We have had days where we run to you,  
days for diving out of the boat,  
days for deep joy,  
and days where the pain of the world feels too close to bear.  
So as we bring our wandering hearts to you,  
we ask that you draw us in.  
Allow this story to spark something new in us.  
Allow this story of grace to give us pause  
and pull us in.  
We are listening.  
Amen.

\*LESSON 1:

**May God add a blessing to this reading.**

\*LESSON 2

This is the Word of God for all people.  
**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

\*SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,  
giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,  
that we may praise you not with our words only,  
but with our whole lives. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

TIME OF PRAYER

PASTORAL AND SILENT PRAYER (MUSIC)

## ApLORD'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 now and forever. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (cont.)

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a God who shows up in our lives—  
surprising and catching us off-guard in the best of ways.  
We believe in a God who cares for God's people—  
a shepherd who longs for her sheep to be fed and tended.  
We believe in a God who took on flesh—  
a God whose love changed the world as we know it.  
We believe that this here-and-now God invites us out of the  
boat,  
calling ordinary people like Peter, like us, into a life of service  
and community.  
And so we give our hearts. We give our whole hearts and  
nothing less. Amen.**

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*CLOSING HYMN

### POSTLUDE