

BERN REFORMED UCC - FEBRUARY 2nd, 2025

Our Calling

PRELUDE: "Theme and Two Variations"

-Pachelbel

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER MINISTRY

OLD TESTAMENT: Jeremiah 1:4-10 (The Call of Jeremiah)

The word of the Lord came to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born, I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations." "Alas, Sovereign Lord," I said, "I do not know how to speak; I am too young." But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am too young.' You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the Lord. Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, "I have put my words in your mouth. See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant."

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 71:1-6 *"David penned this in his old age."*

LEADER: In you, Lord, I have taken refuge; let me never be put to shame.

PEOPLE: Rescue me and deliver me; turn your ear to me and save me. Be my rock of refuge, to which I can always go!

LEADER: You are my rock and my fortress. Deliver me from the hand of the wicked, from those who are evil and cruel.

PEOPLE: For you have been my hope O Lord; from birth I have relied on you; I will forever praise you!

GOSPEL: Luke 4:21-30 *Jesus in the synagogue near his home*

He began by saying to them, "Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his lips. "Isn't this Joseph's son?" they asked. Jesus said to them, "Surely you will quote this proverb to me: 'Physician, heal yourself!' And you will tell me, 'Do here in your hometown what we have heard that you did in Capernaum.'" Truly I tell you," he continued, "no prophet is accepted in his hometown. I assure you that there were many widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the sky was shut for three and a half years and there was a severe famine throughout the land. Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them, but to a widow in Zarephath in the region of Sidon. And there were many in Israel with leprosy in the time of Elisha the prophet, yet not one of them was cleansed—only Naaman the Syrian." All the people in the synagogue were furious when they heard this. They got up, drove him out of the town, and took him to the brow of the hill on which the town was built, in order to throw him off the cliff. But he walked right through the crowd and went on his way.

HYMN #207 "JESUS CALLS US"

- 1. Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;
Day by day his sweet voice sounding,
Saying; "Christian follow me!"**
- 2. Jesus calls us from the worship of the vain world's golden store,
From each idol that would keep us,
Saying, "Christian, love me more."**
- 3. In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
Still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**
- 4. Jesus calls us! By Thy mercies, Savior, may we hear your call,
Give our hearts to Thy obedience,
Serve & love Thee best of all.**

EPISTLE: I Cor 13:1-13 The Way of Love

If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. If I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to death, but have not love, I gain nothing. Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child.

When I became *mature*, I gave up childish ways. For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart" *arr.Schackley*

SERMON: "YOUR CALLING?"

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Live Your Love"

- Joseph Martin

"THE INSTITUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION"

THE "GREAT THANKSGIVING"

Pastor: The Lord Be With You

People: And also with you

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord

People: It is right to give the Lord Thanks and Praise

HOLY COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF BREAD: "The Bread of Life" -*Angusado & Booth*

THE FRUIT OF THE VINE: "Gifts From God" -*Tomlin*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER: Heavenly Father; In this sacred moment after Communion, may we desire and seek to become vessels of Your love, sharing the grace we have received with all who are around us. Help us to reflect Christ's compassion and kindness in both our actions and words. Let our hearts overflow with the joy of Your presence, inspiring others to seek You. Guide our hearts to reflect both Jesus' humility and His strength, that we may be beacons of hope and light in a world in need.

"OUR LORD'S PRAYER"

HYMN #272: "LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING"

- 1. Love divine all loves excelling, Joy of Heav'n to Earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.**
- 2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit, Let us find thy promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.**
- 3. Come, Almighty to deliver; Let us all thy grace receive;
Suddenly return, and never, Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy host above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.**
- 4. Finish, then, thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, & praise!**

COMMISSION & BLESSING: Let us go forth into the world in peace dedicated to the presence of the Holy Spirit. Let us hold fast to that which is good! Render to no person evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honoring all people! Let us love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of His Spirit abiding within us. And may God's blessing be upon us and remain with us always! Amen.

POSTLUDE: "Go Forth In Faith"

- Smith

Attendance last week 80