June 27th, 2021

**Words of Preparation:**

*“We have within us a compass pointing to the magnetic north of God.” -Cynthia Bourgeault*

**Prelude**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

We gather here in expectation,

**looking for an encounter with our Holy God,**

who comes among us when we least expect it,

**who invites us to wrestle with our questions and doubts,**

who richly blesses us,

**and calls us each by name.**

Let’s worship God together!

**\*Hymn (insert) “Just a Closer Walk with Thee”**

**Glory to God #835**

**Children’s Message**

*(After the moment with children, they are invited to go to children’s church. Parents may pick them up afterwards.)*

\***Call to Confession**

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin.

**\*Prayer of Confession**

**Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

***(Period of silence for personal confession)***

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

**Special Music**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**Scripture Reading**

**Genesis 32:22-32**

The word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon “At the Threshold: Jacob between Twilight and Dawn”**

**\*Affirmation of Faith** (Confession of 1967,9.21,22 )

***The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for all when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God’s forgiveness to people, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life takes shape in a community in which we know that God loves and accepts us in spite of what we are. We therefore accept ourselves and love others, knowing that no one has any ground on which to stand,***

***except God’s grace.***

**Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts**

The earth is the Lord’s, and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it. Let us return to God the offerings of our life and the gifts of the earth.

**Giving of our Tithes and Offerings**

*(Please use this time for silent prayer and reflection as you consider ways to offer your life, your gifts, time, and commitment to God. You may give online at upctx.org/giving OR as you enter or exit the church sanctuary today. There are two offering boxes available. During the offertory, we will collect the noisy offering: drop your loose change or other monetary gifts in the bowl! The noisy offering this month supports GISD Teachers Closet)*

**\*The Doxology**

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Gracious God, how can we thank you for such a gift as has been given to us through Christ Jesus our Lord? For you have drawn us to you in grace and bound us to one another. Send us out to share your love and proclaim your hope until Christ comes again. Bless the gifts we have offered back to you and help us to use them according to your call.**

**\*Hymn (insert) “Why Should I Feel Discouraged? (His Eye is on the Sparrow)”**

**Glory to God #661**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response**

**Postlude**