

Welcome to Summer Worship at Zion!

***I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY
Rediscovering God’s Grace in the Old Testament***

“Jonah and God’s Mercy”

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July 22, 2018 9:30 am

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***Rooted in Faith \* Growing in Spirit \* Reaching Out to Those in Need***  
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INTRODUCTION

This summer we are exploring the Old Testament stories of God’s relationship with God’s chosen people. Our scripture lessons for the summer begin with the early chapters of Genesis and move through the stories of Israel’s early history, the exodus, the kings, and the prophets. The stories tell of hope and disappointment, suffering and redemption, love and forgiveness. In all these stories, we find God dealing with the complexities of human life.

PRELUDE/GATHERING SONGS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

GATHERING HYMN/SONG “The Potter's Hand”

Beautiful Lord, Wonderful Savior,
I know for sure all of my days are
Held in Your hand crafted into Your perfect plan.
You gently call me, into your presence
Guiding me by Your Holy Spirit
Teach me dear Lord to live all of my life
Through Your eyes.

I'm captured by Your holy calling,
Set me apart, I know Your drawing,
Me to Yourself, Lead me, Lord, I pray.

Take me, mold me
Use me, fill me.
I give my life to the Potter's Hand.
Call me, guide me
Lead me, walk beside me.
I give my life to the Potter's Hand.

You gently call me, into your presence
Guiding me by Your Holy Spirit
Teach me dear Lord to live all of my life
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CALL TO WORSHIP *(please stand)*
God made the heavens and the earth,
and formed us from dust, breathing into us the breath of life.
O come, let us worship our Creator!

And now, let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich,"
Because of what the Lord has done for us.
Give thanks, give thanks, give thanks, give thanks!

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand)*

O Lord our God, maker of all things,
through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer
ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all
that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself to us, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'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,
forever and ever. Amen** *(please be seated)*

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. Please come forward as directed by the ushers.
Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available; please indicate to the server by raising your hand.*

COMMUNION SONG

"We Come to the Hungry Feast"

ELW #479

COMMUNION BLESSING *(please stand)*

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Almighty and merciful God, you have planted in us the seed of your word, and nurtured us
with the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Help us by your Holy Spirit to grow in
faith, hope, and love. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

May the God of hope fill you
with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

CLOSING/SENDING SONG

"Forgive Our sins As We Forgive"

ELW #605

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**I love to tell the story,
for some have never
heard the message of
salvation from God's
own holy Word.**

I LOVE TO TELL THE STORY

*REDISCOVERING GOD'S GRACE IN THE
OLD TESTAMENT*

SCRIPTURE

Jonah 1:1-17; 3:1- 10; 4:1-11

Chapter 1

¹Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ²Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me. ³But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

⁴But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and such a mighty storm came upon the sea that the ship threatened to break up. ⁵Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried to his god. They threw the cargo that was in the ship into the sea, to lighten it for them. Jonah, meanwhile, had gone down into the hold of the ship and had lain down, and was fast asleep. ⁶The captain came and said to him, "What are you doing sound asleep? Get up, call on your god! Perhaps the god will spare us a thought so that we do not perish."

⁷The sailors said to one another, "Come, let us cast lots, so that we may know on whose account this calamity has come upon us." So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. ⁸Then they said to him, "Tell us why this calamity has come upon us. What is your occupation? Where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?" ⁹I am a Hebrew, he replied. "I worship the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land." ¹⁰Then the men were even more afraid, and said to him, "What is this that you have done!" For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them so.

¹¹Then they said to him, "What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?" For the sea was growing more and more tempestuous. ¹²He said to them, "Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you." ¹³Nevertheless the men rowed hard to bring the ship back to land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more stormy against them. ¹⁴Then they cried out to the LORD, "Please, O LORD, we pray, do not let us perish on account of this man's life. Do not make us guilty of innocent blood; for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you." ¹⁵So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. ¹⁶Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

¹⁷ But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Chapter 3

¹The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you. ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a

three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

⁶When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. ⁷Then he had a proclamation made in Nineveh: "By the decree of the king and his nobles: No human being or animal, no herd or flock, shall taste anything. They shall not feed, nor shall they drink water. ⁸Human beings and animals shall be covered with sackcloth, and they shall cry mightily to God. All shall turn from their evil ways and from the violence that is in their hands. ⁹Who knows? God may relent and change his mind; he may turn from his fierce anger, so that we do not perish."

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Chapter 4

¹But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ²He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. ³And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶The Lord GOD appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"