

# Jonah Attempts to Escape God

November 8, 2020

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## GATHERING

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### PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Vicar Stephanie*)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*Vicar Stephanie*)

L: Blessed be the Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. (*Silence for individual reflection.*) Most merciful God,

**C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**C: Amen.**

GATHERING SONG

“Change My Heart”

ELW #801

**Refrain**

Change my heart, O God;  
Make it ever true.  
Change my heart, O God;  
May I be like you.

**Verse**

You are the potter;  
I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me  
This is what I pray

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Assistant*)

L: God of the seas, sky and land, When Jonah turned to run from you, you showed him that nothing and no one could hide from your presence. You are in all things, and you love all things. Show us the gift of your presence, and help us to carry your word of compassion and grace to all the world, in the name of the one who carried out your love flawlessly, Jesus Christ our redeemer.

**C: Amen.**

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## WORD

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FIRST READING (*Mollie Erickson*)

Book of Jonah (*Excerpts from Chapters 1, 3, & 4*)

*Chapter 1*

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, ‘Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it; for their wickedness has come up before me.’ But 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. But 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. Then 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. The 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.’ The 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. He said to them, 'Pick me up and throw me into the sea; then the sea will quieten down for you; for I know it is because of me that this great storm has come upon you. So they picked Jonah up and threw him into the sea; and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the LORD even more, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows. But the LORD provided a large fish to swallow up Jonah; and Jonah was in the belly of the fish for three days and three nights.

### *Chapter 3*

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, 'Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.' So 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. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, 'Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!' And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth. When the news reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, removed his robe, covered himself with sackcloth, and sat in ashes. When 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*

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He 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. And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then 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.

L: The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 20:1-16

L: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

L: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to You, O Christ.**

### SERMON

Vicar Stephanie Luedtke

SONG OF THE DAY

“Glorious Day”

Jason Ingram, Johnathan Smith,  
Sean Curran and Kristin Stanfill/Dan Galbraith

Verse 1

I was buried beneath my shame  
Who could carry that kind of weight  
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Verse 2

I was breathing but not alive  
All my failures I tried to hide  
It was my tomb 'til I met You

Chorus 1

You called my name  
And I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness  
Into Your glorious day

You called my name  
And I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness  
Into Your glorious day

Verse 3

Now Your mercy has saved my soul  
Now Your freedom is all that I know  
The old made new  
Jesus when I met You

Bridge

I needed rescue  
My sin was heavy  
But chains break  
At the weight of Your glory

I needed shelter  
I was an orphan  
Now You call me  
A citizen of Heaven

When I was broken  
You were my healing  
Now Your love  
Is the air that I'm breathing

I have a future  
My eyes are open  
'Cause when you called my name  
I ran out of that grave

Chorus 2

Out of the darkness  
Into Your glorious day

You called my name  
And I ran out of that grave  
Out of the darkness  
Into Your glorious day

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Assistant*)

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (*Assistant*)

L: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

**C: Hear our prayer.**

L: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

**C: Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*Assistant*)

**C: 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.**

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## SENDING

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### BENEDICTION (*Vicar Stephanie*)

L: The God of all grace, bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

### CLOSING SONG

“Everlasting God”

*B. Brown, K. Riley/Dan Galbraith*

#### Verse 1

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
Wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord

Repeat all

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord  
Wait upon the Lord We will wait upon the Lord

#### Chorus 2

You are the everlasting God The everlasting God  
The everlasting God The everlasting

#### Pre-chorus

Our God You reign forever  
Our Hope Our strong Deliverer

#### Chorus 2

#### Verse 1

#### Chorus 1

You are the everlasting God; The everlasting God  
You do not faint; You won't grow weary

You're the defender of the weak  
You comfort those in need  
You lift us up on wings like eagles

### DISMISSAL (*Assistant*)

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE