

**Worship at Home Guide:** January 31, 2021

**Prelude:** \* *Melodie* – T. Mee Pattison

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## **GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD**

**Opening Prayer:** (*Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand*)

There are times when I talk too much.  
There are times when I repeat things which I have no right to repeat.  
I pass on a story which may not be entirely true  
or add my own embroidered flourish to a tale in the telling.  
O God who always listens, forgive me.

Help me remember to keep a deliberate  
and constant check on my tongue.  
Keep safe within me the hurts and secrets that others have shared,  
for they trusted me, and I was glad of that trust.  
Keep safe within me the confidences of children,  
lest they be hurt by my crass joking over their tender moments.  
Keep safe within me those safe disclosures of weakness and fear  
shared in a moment of intimate vulnerability by my spouse  
as a further expression of love for me.

Keep safe within me all those communications  
which were entrusted to me for safekeeping.

Help me to listen, as you do Lord.  
Help me to use my ears more than my mouth.  
With your help, Lord, may I never again hear myself betraying a confidence  
or breaching a trust.  
Instead, transform me, Lord, into a listening, trustworthy friend. Amen.

**Opening Hymn:** *Lord Jesus, Think on Me*

1. Lord Jesus, think on me,  
And purge away my sin;  
From earth-born passions set me free,  
And make me pure within.

2. Lord Jesus, think on me,  
Amid the battle's strife;  
In all my pain and misery  
Be Thou my health and life.

*Lord Jesus, Think on Me*, as in *The Presbyterian Hymnal*, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press.  
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## **GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer of Illumination**

**Scripture: Zechariah 13:1-6; Mark 1:21-28**

#### **Zechariah 13:1-6**

**13** On that day a fountain shall be opened for the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, to cleanse them from sin and impurity.

<sup>2</sup> On that day, says the LORD of hosts, I will cut off the names of the idols from the land, so that they shall be remembered no more; and also, I will remove from the land the prophets and the unclean spirit. <sup>3</sup> And if any prophets appear again, their fathers and mothers who bore them will say to them, "You shall not live, for you speak lies in the name of the LORD"; and their fathers and their mothers who bore them shall pierce them through when they prophesy. <sup>4</sup> On that day the prophets will be ashamed, every one, of their visions when they prophesy; they will not put on a hairy mantle in order to deceive, <sup>5</sup> but each of them will say, "I am no prophet, I am a tiller of the soil; for the land has been my possession since my youth." <sup>6</sup> And if anyone asks them, "What are these wounds on your chest?" the answer will be "The wounds I received in the house of my friends."

#### **Mark 1:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup> They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup> Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup> and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." <sup>25</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" <sup>26</sup> And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup> They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." <sup>28</sup> At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

**Sermon:** Lies, Damned Lies, and the Unclean Spirit

The Rev. Kerra Becker English

## **RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD**

### **Prayer of the People and the 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### **Offering**

**Response:** *Doxology*

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*

*Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;*

*Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*, As in The Presbyterian Hymnal, © 1990 Westminster John Knox Press. Public Domain. CCLI #[20516410](#) Size A, Streaming #[20516427](#) Size A.

## **SENDING US OUT TO BE GOD'S WORD IN THE WORLD**

Closing Hymn: *My Hope is Built*

1. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*Refrain:*

*On Christ the solid Rock, I stand;*

*All other ground is sinking sand,*

*All other ground is sinking sand.*

2. His oath, His covenant, His Blood support me in the whelming flood;  
When all around my soul gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.

*Refrain:*

*On Christ the solid Rock, I stand;*

*All other ground is sinking sand,*

*All other ground is sinking sand.*

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## **Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude:** \**Rock of My Salvation* – Edward H. Wetherill

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