

Prelude : Panis Angelicus (Bread of Heaven) Cesar Franke

Introit : The One and Only God - Chancel Choir

***Call to Worship**

***Opening Hymn**

UMH # 327 - Crown Him with Many Crowns

Announcements

Congregational Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Anthem - In His Hand - Chancel Choir

I Believe in Jesus
(Offering)
How Great is God/How Great Thou art

UMH #95 Doxology & Prayer of Dedication

***Scripture**

Jonah 1

***Scripture Response & UMH#393-Spirit of the Living God**

Message

Running Away from God

Communion Anthem -"How Beautiful" written by Twila Paris
Holy Communion

***Closing Hymn**

UMH # 419 -I am Thine -O Lord

***Benediction**

Postlude : On Jordon's Stormy Banks I Stand by Samuel Stennett

Congregational Prayer

Creator God, You formed and fashioned us in Your own image, and You call us Your own. We are privileged to be children of the Most High God, and our love for You is intense and genuine. We praise You for the mercy and grace You bestow upon us so that our identity is formed through our relationship with You.

We know we are sons and daughters of the King.

But as sons and daughters, we carry a responsibility with our identity. You call us to be Your own, to work for You, to do Your will, and to follow Your ways. That responsibility, Lord, sometimes seems heavy, and we become stubborn, selfish, and scared of the load You ask us to bear. Sometimes, we want Your will to be silent so we can just go our own way. Sometimes, Lord, we just want to give it all up and run away, just as Jonah did.

We know we cannot run away from You. You follow us even as we drift away from You.

We are sometimes prideful and critical of people like Jonah, who ran away from Your call, or Peter, who denied You three times. We are far too ready and willing to criticize the behavior of others who neglect or try to escape carrying out Your purposes. Forgive us for our criticism, Lord, and our hypocrisy. Help us to be ready and willing to go where You would send us, to do what You tell us to do, and to develop Christ-like hearts of compassion for souls that are lost and bound for eternal separation from You.

We pray that many who are unchurched will hear Your Word and receive Your salvation. Send Your Holy Spirit to help us in that dream for the Kingdom of God.

Thank You that even when we are faithless, You remain faithful and wait patiently for us to return. Thank you for the problems, conflicts, and tests that make us return to You when we stray. Make us ready to hear and obey Your call for our lives, no matter how difficult or unusual it may be. Use us, we pray, to share the Good News of salvation to those who are dead in their sin and do not know they need You.

Give us ears to hear You and mouths to speak Your Good News to others.

These and all our unspoken petitions we pray today, knowing that You have sought us, found us, and claimed us as Your children. We pray in the way our Savior taught us:

Our Father. . .

(The Lord's Prayer follows)

***Congregation please stand as able**

Liturgist: **Diana Olsen**

Rev. Dr. Arun Paul - arun@decatargrace.org

(Worship is recorded for T.V. viewing and other social media platforms)