



ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP @ HOME

www.zionuccindy.net/worshipathome

The Spiritual Practices of Jesus
August 29, 2021

Prelude

Christ Walks in Beauty

We are Called to Worship – Who is calling us? Come and see. What might happen? Come and see. Jesus calls to us, “Follow me.” We follow the one who calls us.~ Let us worship.

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.

A Time of Prayer— You invite us, O God, to live in your ways, and you give us to each other to know and to love as we journey in this life. Show us your will for all creation. Help us to listen to your urgings with prayerful hearts so that we may honor what you have made, in the name of the holy Trinity, one God, now and forever. Amen.=...

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

We Hear God's Word

John 1:35-51 (CEB)

³⁵ The next day John was standing again with two of his disciples. ³⁶ When he saw Jesus walking along he said, "Look! The Lamb of God!" ³⁷ The two disciples heard what he said, and they followed Jesus.

³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he asked, "What are you looking for?"

They said, "Rabbi (which is translated *Teacher*), where are you staying?"

³⁹ He replied, "Come and see." So they went and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

⁴⁰ One of the two disciples who heard what John said and followed Jesus was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. ⁴¹ He first found his own brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated *Christ*). ⁴² He led him to Jesus.

Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon, son of John. You will be called Cephas" (which is translated *Peter*).

⁴³ The next day Jesus wanted to go into Galilee, and he found Philip. Jesus said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Philip was from Bethsaida, the hometown of Andrew and Peter.

⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found the one Moses wrote about in the Law and the Prophets: Jesus, Joseph's son, from Nazareth."

⁴⁶ Nathanael responded, "Can anything from Nazareth be good?" Philip said, "Come and see."

⁴⁷ Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him and said about him, "Here is a genuine Israelite in whom there is no deceit."

⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered, "Before Philip called you, I saw you under the fig tree."

⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are God's Son. You are the king of Israel."

⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these! ⁵¹ I assure you that you will see heaven open and God's angels going up to heaven and down to earth on the Human One."

Meditation

The Spiritual Practices of Jesus: Invitation

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Invitation – Christ has invited you to follow him. Come and see, now, what he will do. With grateful hearts we bring our gifts of thanksgiving to God that they might be used to extend the invitation to follow Christ.

August Benevolence – “...for I was hungry and you gave me something to eat...” This month we are once again supporting God’s Bounty Food Pantry. God’s Bounty works with our neighbors who are facing food insecurity, providing them with staples they need to feed their families. God’s Bounty is a joint ministry of the Franklin Township Ministerial Association.

You can mail your offerings to our office or give online at www.zionuccindy.net/donate

Doxology

We Give Thanks – God, we give you thanks that you have invited us to follow you. Because of our gratitude, we bring our gifts to you—our time, our talents, our resources. With thanksgiving on our hearts, we ask that you bless these gifts and all who give that through these gifts and our very lives others might know of your welcome and your love. Amen.

Hymn

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus, 344

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing – As you set out into the world, remember that Christ has called you to follow him. Go and see what God can do through you. Carry with you that spirit of invitation as you share the love of Christ with those around. Amen.

Postlude

Adagietto

~ Scifres, Mary; Beu, B. J.. The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021 (p. 26). Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition.
=Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1: Advent through Pentecost (p. 51). Westminster John Knox Press. Kindle Edition.