**Order of Worship**

**February 14, 2021**

**Meditation –** 1 Peter 3:9

Do not repay evil for evil or reviling for reviling, but on the contrary, bless, for to this you were called, that you may obtain a blessing.

**Songs of Adoration**

**Call to Worship** – Psalm 128

Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord, who walks in his ways! **2**You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands; you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with you. **3**Your wife will be like a fruitful vine within your house; your children will be like olive shoots around your table. **4**Behold, thus shall the man be blessed who fears the Lord. **5**The Lord bless you from Zion! May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem all the days of your life! **6**May you see your children's children!  Peace be upon Israel!

**Prayer of Adoration**

**Confession of Sin**

O God, early in the morning I cry to You. Help me to pray and to concentrate on You: I cannot do this alone. In me there is darkness, but with You there is light. I am lonely, but You do not leave me; I am feeble in heart, but with You there is help; I am restless, but with You there is peace; in me there is bitterness, but with You there is patience; I do not understand Your ways, but You know the way for me. Restore and enable me to live in freedom from sin. Lord, whatever this day may bring, Your name be praised. Amen.

*(adapted from Dietrich Bonhoeffer)*

**Assurance of Pardon**

Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the Lord’s hand double for all her sins.

*(Isaiah 40:1-2)*

**Songs of Worship**

**Offering and Doxology**

**New Testament Reading –** Luke 6:27-38

“But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, **28**bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. **29**To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. **30**Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. **31**And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

**32**“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. **33**And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. **34**And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. **35**But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. **36**Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

**37**“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; **38**give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

**Children’s Sermon**

**Announcements**

**Song of Preparation**

**Sermon -** “Delivering A Blessing”

**Sermon Text –** Genesis 48:1-22

After this, Joseph was told, “Behold, your father is ill.” So he took with him his two sons, Manasseh and Ephraim. **2**And it was told to Jacob, “Your son Joseph has come to you.” Then Israel summoned his strength and sat up in bed. **3**And Jacob said to Joseph, “God Almighty appeared to me at Luz in the land of Canaan and blessed me, **4**and said to me, ‘Behold, I will make you fruitful and multiply you, and I will make of you a company of peoples and will give this land to your offspring after you for an everlasting possession.’ **5**And now your two sons, who were born to you in the land of Egypt before I came to you in Egypt, are mine; Ephraim and Manasseh shall be mine, as Reuben and Simeon are. **6**And the children that you fathered after them shall be yours. They shall be called by the name of their brothers in their inheritance. **7**As for me, when I came from Paddan, to my sorrow Rachel died in the land of Canaan on the way, when there was still some distance[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Genesis+48%3A1-22&version=ESV#fen-ESV-1459b)] to go to Ephrath, and I buried her there on the way to Ephrath (that is, Bethlehem).”

**8**When Israel saw Joseph's sons, he said, “Who are these?” **9**Joseph said to his father, “They are my sons, whom God has given me here.” And he said, “Bring them to me, please, that I may bless them.” **10**Now the eyes of Israel were dim with age, so that he could not see. So Joseph brought them near him, and he kissed them and embraced them. **11**And Israel said to Joseph, “I never expected to see your face; and behold, God has let me see your offspring also.” **12**Then Joseph removed them from his knees, and he bowed himself with his face to the earth. **13**And Joseph took them both, Ephraim in his right hand toward Israel's left hand, and Manasseh in his left hand toward Israel's right hand, and brought them near him. **14**And Israel stretched out his right hand and laid it on the head of Ephraim, who was the younger, and his left hand on the head of Manasseh, crossing his hands (for Manasseh was the firstborn). **15**And he blessed Joseph and said,

“The God before whom my fathers Abraham and Isaac walked,  
    the God who has been my shepherd all my life long to this day,  
**16**the angel who has redeemed me from all evil, bless the boys;  
    and in them let my name be carried on, and the name of my fathers Abraham and Isaac;  
    and let them grow into a multitude in the midst of the earth.”

**17**When Joseph saw that his father laid his right hand on the head of Ephraim, it displeased him, and he took his father's hand to move it from Ephraim's head to Manasseh's head. **18**And Joseph said to his father, “Not this way, my father; since this one is the firstborn, put your right hand on his head.” **19**But his father refused and said, “I know, my son, I know. He also shall become a people, and he also shall be great. Nevertheless, his younger brother shall be greater than he, and his offspring shall become a multitude of nations.” **20**So he blessed them that day, saying,

“By you Israel will pronounce blessings, saying,  
‘God make you as Ephraim and as Manasseh.’”

Thus he put Ephraim before Manasseh. **21**Then Israel said to Joseph, “Behold, I am about to die, but God will be with you and will bring you again to the land of your fathers. **22**Moreover, I have given to you rather than to your brothers one mountain slope that I took from the hand of the Amorites with my sword and with my bow.”

**Song of Response**

**Benediction**