

Mount Vernon United Methodist Church

February 11, 2024

✦ *Congregation will stand.*

PRELUDE

“Holy, Holy, Holy” (arr. Dan Forrest)

Juliet Cho

✦ CALL TO WORSHIP

I will praise you, O God, for you have lifted me up.

You did not let my foes rejoice over me.

You, O God, have healed me,

You have brought up my soul from the pits of hell.

I will sing and praise you, O God.

I give thanks for your holy name.

You have turned my mourning into dancing. You have clothed me with joy.

My soul will praise you, O God, and it will not be silent.

O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever. Amen.

✦ OPENING HYMN 258

“O Wondrous Sight! O Vision Fair”

**1. O wondrous sight! O vision fair
of glory that the church shall share,
which Christ upon the mountain shows,
where brighter than the sun he glows!**

**2. From age to age the tale declares
how with the three disciples there
where Moses and Elijah meet,
the Lord holds converse high and sweet.**

**3. The law and prophets there have place,
two chosen witnesses of grace;**

**the Father's voice from out the cloud
proclaims his only Son aloud.**

**4. With shining face and bright array,
Christ deigns to manifest that day
what glory shall be theirs above
who joy in God with perfect love.**

**5. And faithful hearts are raised on high
by this great vision's mystery;
for which in joyful strains we raise
the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.**

✦ MORNING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

**Gracious and living God, we give you thanks for this day and for the promises you
give us. Help us live each day in the fullness of those promises, that we might
experience healing and wholeness all the days of our lives. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.**

ANTHEM

“This Is the Day”

Mount Vernon Children

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Jae Cho

✦ HYMN 141

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

**1. Children of the heavenly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.**

**2. God his own doth tend and nourish;
in his holy courts they flourish;
from all evil things he spares them;
in his mighty arms he bears them.**

**3. Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.**

**4. Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.**

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Kings 5:8-14

Rachel Holden

But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, “Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel.” So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha’s house.

Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, “Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean.” But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, “I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?” He turned and went away in a rage. But his servants approached and said to him, “Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, ‘Wash, and be clean?’” So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Easy Does It”

Jae Cho

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 881

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;**

the third day he rose from the dead;

**he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

✦ GLORIA 71

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.**

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY SONG “God Will Take Care of You”(arr. Juliet Cho) *Aldersgate Choir*

✦ DOXOLOGY 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

✦ OFFERTORY PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Shine upon us with your grace, that we might see what frightens us and face
what threatens us. Flow through us with your mercy, that we might sense your
presence, even when we have run away, and that we may know your love,
even when we feel most unlovable. Abide in us with your love, for your love
claims us and makes us whole. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Even in the darkest of times, the light of God is shining. The light of Christ’s love
and mercy are shining now, brightening our lives with mercy and grace.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
Glory to God. Amen.**

✦ CLOSING HYMN 203 “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed”

**1. Hail to the Lord's Anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free;
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.**

**2. He comes with succor speedy
to those who suffer wrong;
to help the poor and needy,
and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
are precious in his sight.**

**3. He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth;
love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth.
Before him, on the mountains,
shall peace, the herald, go,
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.**

**4. To him shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
his kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.
The tide of time shall never
his covenant remove;
his name shall stand forever;
that name to us is love.**

✦ BENEDICTION

✦ POSTLUDE "Postlude on 'Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones'" (Matthew McConnell)

Juliet Cho