† Please stand as you are able. People are invited to say the words in bold aloud.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements Chiming the Trinity

Call to Worship—Psalm 62:5-12 (CEB)

All: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, it is now and shall be forever, world without end. Amen.

†**Opening Hymn** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" **UMH 110**

Young Disciples Time

The children may come forward for Young Disciples Time

†Hymn "The Summons" TFWS 2130

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, as you spoke to Peter, Andrew, James, and John while walking along the Sea of Galilee, may you also walk by us and call out to us today, for your servants are listening. Amen.

Old Testament Reading Genesis 12:1-4
Gospel Reading Mark 1:14-20

Reader: this is the word of God for us the people of God, thanks be to God!

Prayer of Confession—adapted from Nancy Townley

Lord, we confess when we look at our own lives, we find it hard to believe that we could leave everything behind to follow someone we didn't know. We have many responsibilities and ties which keep us from following you, and we confess we tried to place conditions or limitations on following you. Forgive us, Lord, for prioritizing what's comfortable and familiar over following you. May your grace wash over us and over our sins, may your love pour into us, may your Spirit lead us, and may your courage fill us to go where you are calling, even if it feels hard. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness

Friends, take heart: while following the Lord is demanding sometimes, know the Lord is your rock, your salvation, a fortress, and your ever-loving Parent who is always ready to offer you help and grace.

†Passing of the Peace

As a forgiven and reconciled people, you are invited to greet your neighbor with signs of peace.

Sermon "Leaving What's Familiar Behind" Pastor Adam

Hymn "Would I Have Answered When You Called" **TFWS 2137**

Tithes and Offerings

The Doxology (UMH 94)

Desiree Davis-Omburo

UMH 261

Dedicating our gifts to God

Prayers of the People

You are invited to offer your prayer requests on the cards in your pews with a prayer concern. After each petition: "Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer."**

The Lord's Prayer

†Closing Song "Lord of the Dance"

†Benediction

†Chiming the Trinity

†Postlude

⁵ For God alone my soul waits in silence, for my hope is from him.

⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be shaken.

⁷On God rests my deliverance and my honor; my rock, my refuge is in God.

⁸Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart before him; God is a refuge for us.

⁹Those of low estate are but a breath; those of high estate are a delusion; in the balances they go up; they are together lighter than a breath.

¹⁰ Put no confidence in extortion; and set no vain hopes on robbery; if riches increase, do not set your heart on them.

¹¹ Once God has spoken; twice have I heard this: that power belongs to God,

¹² and steadfast love belongs to you, O Lord. For you repay to all according to their work.

Announcements:

- <u>EGG COLLECTION NEXT SUNDAY, JANUARY 28—BRING YOUR EGGS</u>
 We'll also have the church doors open on Wednesday and Thursday if you want to bring your eggs early.
- Rise Against Hunger update: we have received \$1,350 for Rise Against Hunger. Thanks to all who have given! We have a goal to raise \$6,400 total between three churches (\$2,183.33 per church). If everyone gave \$50, we would easily meet our goal of \$2,183.33! You may write a check to Parkwood UMC and put "Rise Against Hunger" in the memo line. Please sign up to register for the event online so we know who and how many are coming.
- Youth and parents are invited to meet Pastor Adam at Tomato Jake's immediately following worship—pizza on him!
- The **Administrative Board** has a meeting this afternoon **@ 2 PM** in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited and welcome to come.
- Coffee with the Pastor will be this Wednesday @ 9:30 AM-12 PM at Starbucks
- On **Wednesday, February 7** @ **noon**, we'll start a new hybrid (in-person and online) small group opportunity called **Lectio Divina**, where the purpose will be to listen: listen for how God or the text is speaking into our lives, and listen to one another. This is a bag lunch study, so you're welcome to bring your lunch and join us in-person or online!
- Pick up a Mission and Service booklet on your way out from the Conference, if you want to know how your appointments are being spent.
- If you would like to go to Annual Conference on June 12-15 at the North Carolina Convention Center in Greenville, NC, please let Pastor Adam know.

Parkwood United Methodist Church



"Fisherman Throwing Fish Net on Lake," free image by Quang Nguyen Vinh on pexels.com

Following Jesus: Leaving What's Familiar Behind

Sunday, January 21, 2024 • 3rd Sunday after Epiphany