Order of Service St Nicholas 21.04.2024

Welcome

Call to Worship

Ubi cavitas

Call & Response

Hymn – CH4 200/MP 73 Christ is made the sure foundation (4x verses)

Bible 1 – Mark 1: 16-20 [NIV]

Jesus Calls His First Disciples

16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 "Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will send you out to fish for people." 18 At once they left their nets and followed him.

19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Bible 2 – Acts 6: 1-7 [NIV]

The Choosing of the Seven

6 In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews[a] among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. 2 So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, "It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. 3 Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

5 This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. 6 They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

7 So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Prayer & Lord's prayer

Hymn – CH4 533/A&M 510 Will you come and follow me

Reflection

Offering & Hymn – MP 795 You laid aside your majesty

Prayer for the offering

Prayer of Intercession

Compassionate God, we pray for vulnerable people all over this world, people without power who live in places of terror and violence, fear and oppression.

Protect them, God; we feel so powerless ourselves to help them. Encourage and empower us to work for peace and to have freedom from fear in our own contexts.

God of grace,
we pray for those whose lives have been turned upside down
by various natural disasters and war.
Bring courage and hope to them;
through their pain, may they remain connected to you in prayer.

We pray for those that say there is no God; may we, through the living of our own lives, demonstrate the joy and peace of a Spirit-centered existence.

God of community, we pray for our own congregation; may we be a source of hope for our neighbourhood.

Help us to discern needs and work to fulfill them.

Strengthen and unify our congregation
and show us how we can be the disciples you envision us to be.

Return the sick to health and well-being
and relieve the suffering of those who have lost loved ones,
those that are unable to find meaningful employment
and for those that fear the challenges of old age.

Guide us, Great Shepherd, into your paths of right relationships. In Jesus' name we pray; Amen.

Hymn – CH4 359 He came down that we may have love (3x verses) \*

\* I have an MP3 if it's not on the hymnal

Benediction

Grace

Close