

Worship for 31 January 2021  
Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

One: Come! Let us give thanks to the Lord with whole hearts.

**ALL: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

One: Glory be to the One whose wonders are to be remembered.

**ALL: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

One: The Lord feeds the righteous with truth.

**ALL: Fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.**

Hymn of Invitation – “Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak”

*Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone. As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.*

*O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.*

Prayer of Confession

*Holy and all-powerful God, who commands all spirits, comforts those in distress, and casts out destructive forces, we confess that we are unable to do your will. We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown. We admire those with courage but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth. We forget that you are always with us, and that with you all things are possible. Forgive us, lead us, make us new. Remove our desire to heed false prophets, and show us your way; in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.*

Scripture – Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Mark 1:21-28 (see reverse)

Reflection – “God’s Word”

Prayers of the People & Lord’s Prayer

*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.*

The Apostles’ Creed (see reverse)

Hymn of Thanksgiving – “What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

*What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

*What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.*

Announcements & Blessing

### **Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

*The Lord your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. This is what you requested of the Lord your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the Lord my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." Then the Lord replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among the people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak – that prophet shall die."*

### **Mark 1:21-28**

*They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, [Jesus] entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God."*

*But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching – with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.*

### **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 Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on 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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.*

*What unclean spirits do we tremble to name, which keep us bound and inhibit us from living as God's people? What would it take to name them, and be defined instead by Christ's powerful love?*