

**Our Service of Worship for February 7, 2021**  
**The Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper**  
Westwood First Presbyterian Church

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Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: "Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us"—arr. Dale Wood

During the Prelude, you are invited to take a moment to prepare for worship.

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer

Hymn: "*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*" \*

A Time of Confession

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:41-52 \*

Sermon: "*Our Father's Business*"

Solo: "There Is A Balm In Gilead"—arr. Howard Helvey      Paul Vigar, baritone

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

    Invitation to the Lord's Table

    The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Words of Institution

    The Sharing of the Elements

    The Pastoral Prayer After Communion/The 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.**

Hymn: "*When We Are Living*" \*

Charge and Benediction

Postlude: "Allegro" from *Concerto in B Minor*—J.G. Walther

\* The words to the hymns and Scripture reading are included with the order of worship.

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Rev. Dr. Jeff Colarossi  
*Pastor*

Heather MacPhail  
*Organist/Director of Music Ministries*

## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1. Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of Heaven to Earth come down,  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art  
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart
2. Come almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, never more Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above;  
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

## When We Are Living

1. When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.  
Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God. We belong to God.
2. Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,  
Whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God. We belong to God.
3. Across this wide world, we shall always find those who are crying with no peace of mind,  
But when we help them, or when we feed them, we belong to God; we belong to God.

## Luke 2:41-52—The Boy Jesus In the Temple (New King James Version)

<sup>41</sup> His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. <sup>42</sup> And when He was twelve years old, they went up to Jerusalem according to the custom of the feast.

<sup>43</sup> When they had finished the days, as they returned, the Boy Jesus lingered behind in Jerusalem. And Joseph and His mother did not know it; <sup>44</sup> but supposing Him to have been in the company, they went a day's journey, and sought Him among their relatives and acquaintances. <sup>45</sup> So when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him.

<sup>46</sup> Now so it was that after three days they found Him in the temple, sitting in the midst of the teachers, both listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup> And all who heard Him were astonished at His understanding and answers.

<sup>48</sup> So when they saw Him, they were amazed; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why have you done this to us? Look, your father and I have sought You anxiously."

<sup>49</sup> And He said to them, "Why did you seek me? Did you not know that I must be about my Father's business?" <sup>50</sup> But they did not understand the statement which He spoke to them.

<sup>51</sup> Then He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was subject to them, but His mother kept all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup> And Jesus increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.



### **Moment for Meditation—The Boy Jesus In the Temple**

Jesus' parents—and Luke's readers—need to appreciate that Jesus understood his mission. From the very beginning he is reflecting on the will of God. He starts revealing himself right in the center of Judaism's religious capital.

But there is a second key detail. Jesus refers to God as his Father. This alludes to the sense of family relationship and intimacy Jesus has with his heavenly Father. Such closeness to God not only is something Jesus' parents need to appreciate but also is a point the disciples will struggle to grasp. In fact, Luke makes this the first note in a series of revelations that will build the case for who Jesus is. The [apocryphal] infancy material stresses Jesus as Messiah, but this text is one of two hints early in Luke's Gospel that he is also much more. Luke reveals Jesus' identity gradually, bringing the reader along in an understanding of who Jesus is. So this first clue comes from Jesus himself. The other major clue comes in the infancy section, where Jesus' divine origin is tied to the Spirit.

Jesus is breaking new ground with his parents here, and they need to understand who he is, just as Luke's readers do. The text makes it clear that at the time they still did not understand what he was saying to them. But Mary treasured (or pondered) all these things in her heart, an appropriate response to Jesus' somewhat enigmatic remarks. Mary does what Luke wants his readers to do as well. It is good to pause and contemplate who Jesus is and the mission he performs. Even two thousand years of history does not do away with the need for such reflection.

Obedient to his parents, Jesus goes home with them to Nazareth. While there he grows in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. There he awaits God's timing to begin the ministry associated with God's house. In the meantime he shows respect for his parents through his obedience, a model for us in a world where teenage rebellion is all too common.

