



# External Traditions & the Heart

THE GOSPEL OF  
**MARK**



// MARK 7:1-23



**TRINITY**  
Presbyterian Church

# ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, October 16, 2022

*Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.*

*Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.*

## SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

My All In Thee

## CALL TO WORSHIP | John 3:3-8, 16-17 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ... "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

## PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Titus 2:13-14 & 3:3-7 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

Our great God and Savior Jesus Christ ... gave himself for us to redeem us from all lawlessness and to purify for himself a people for his own possession who are zealous for good works ... we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of His church and the kingdom of God.

Yet Not I But Through Christ in Me

## PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

Gratitude

The Way

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

Q. 42. How is the Word of God to be read and heard?

A. With diligence, preparation, and prayer; so that we may accept it with faith, store it in our hearts, and practice it in our lives.

## KIDS' WORSHIP & COMMUNITY KIDS' DISMISSAL (Infants - 5th Grade)

*Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.*

## GREETING

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

### PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

### SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

No Longer Slaves

### BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;  
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,  
both now and forevermore. Amen.

# SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

## Proclamation of God's Word

**Text:** Mark 7:1-23 (ESV)

**Title:** External Traditions & the Heart

**Teacher:** Tim Rice

<sup>1</sup> Now when the Pharisees gathered to him, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. <sup>3</sup> (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands properly, holding to the tradition of the elders, <sup>4</sup> and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) <sup>5</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" <sup>6</sup> And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, "'This people honors me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; <sup>7</sup> in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' <sup>8</sup> You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men." <sup>9</sup> And he said to them, "You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! <sup>10</sup> For Moses said, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.' <sup>11</sup> But you say, 'If a man tells his father or his mother, "Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban"' (that is, given to God)— <sup>12</sup> then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, <sup>13</sup> thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do." <sup>14</sup> And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup> There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him." <sup>17</sup> And when he had entered the house and left the people, his disciples asked him about the parable. <sup>18</sup> And he said to them, "Then are you also without understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, <sup>19</sup> since it enters not his heart but his stomach, and is expelled?" (Thus he declared all foods clean.) <sup>20</sup> And he said, "What comes out of a person is what defiles him. <sup>21</sup> For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, <sup>22</sup> coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. <sup>23</sup> All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

**Intro:** Have you ever experienced a misdiagnosis?

## A DISTORTED MISDIAGNOSIS

What is not the problem? It wasn't circumstances.

## THE REAL & RADICAL PROBLEM

What actually IS the problem?

## A GRACIOUS & ETERNAL REMEDY

And how does Jesus answer this problem?

## YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His absolute holiness and purity. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit that there is no impurity in Him and that He is gracious to cleanse everyone who trusts in Jesus.
2. How have you lived as if you do not actually have a heart problem, or as if you don't need to be cleansed? Confess your guilt and helplessness to Jesus, asking Him to change what you cannot change.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His work to call us *what we are* and then **meet us where we are** to save our lives. Thank Him for taking our defilement upon Himself (by His death) and giving us His purity (by His Spirit).
4. Who do you know that sizes up other people as defiled or unworthy (and it might be you)? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them see first *their own defilement and corruption of heart*, and His power and grace to save people like us.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and goodness. Pray for His power of renewal and transformation built upon the security that only Jesus can give us by faith.

