



**Jonah: The Reluctant Prophet**  
**Selections from Jonah**

**April 18, 2021**

**Characters**  
**Rev. Dr. Jim Glatz**

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**Prelude**

"God and God Alone"

arr. Mary McDonald and Larry Shackley  
piano and organ

**Celebration of Community**

Welcome to in person and online worship here at Saxe Gotha. For those here in person, we want to remind you to keep your masks on during the service to keep everyone healthy.

- We also welcome our visitors today. Please fill out our online Visitor Form so that we can connect with you: [saxegotha.org/visit-us](http://saxegotha.org/visit-us). There are also visitors cards in the pew racks please fill those out and leave in the baskets at the end of the service
- The Annual Women's Luncheon will be held on May 16 at 12:30 pm in the gym. Women of all ages are invited. Purchase tickets at [saxegotha.org/events](http://saxegotha.org/events) or through the green envelopes in the pew pockets during the worship services.
- Drive Thru Prayer will be held this Tuesday from 7:15 - 8:15 am in the Saxe Gotha Parking Lot. Please come out and volunteer!
- Family Vacation Bible School will be held in the evening, June 28- July 1. Please register: [saxegotha.org/summer](http://saxegotha.org/summer).
- Kids Summer Camp registration is open: [saxegotha.org/summer](http://saxegotha.org/summer).

Welcome new members today, Bob and Teresa Guy. They were planning to join just as covid began so after a year of waiting they join us today!

**We Gather to Worship**

**Music of Preparation**

"Lamb of God with Jesus Paid It All"...arr. Cindy Berry

**Call to Worship**

Leader: God called to Jonah to get up, go to Nineveh and proclaim God's word.

People: But Jonah refused, until God called a second time.

Leader: God calls us to repent of our self-centeredness and be obedient to him. .

People: Jesus called the disciples by the lakeshore

Leader: They left their families and jobs to follow Jesus.

People: Lord, give us the courage to follow you all of our lives. Amen

**Opening Hymn**

#592 Jesus Calls Us

**Prayer of Confession**

Heavenly Father, we confess that we listen to the stories of the call of the disciples and find them interesting but unrealistic. We want to place conditions on service, and usually those conditions are "if I have time", "if it doesn't push me too far out of my comfort zone," and "if it doesn't inconvenience me too much." Forgive us, Lord, for the very many times we turn our backs on serving you and focus on our own desires. Forgive us when we look the other way when people are in need whether it be physically, emotionally or spiritually. Forgive us our self-centered attitudes and actions that keep us from furthering your kingdom. Call us afresh into service in your name. Amen.

## Words of Assurance

John 3:16-17

New International Version

16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.  
17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

## Affirmation of Faith

From the Lausanne Covenant

To evangelize is to spread the good news that Jesus Christ died for our sins and was raised from the dead according to the Scriptures, and that as the reigning Lord he now offers the forgiveness of sins and the liberating gifts of the Spirit to all who repent and believe. Our Christian presence in the world is indispensable to evangelism, and so is that kind of dialogue whose purpose is to listen sensitively in order to understand. But evangelism itself is the proclamation of the historical, biblical Christ as Saviour and Lord, with a view to persuading people to come to him personally and so be reconciled to God. In issuing the gospel invitation we have no liberty to conceal the cost of discipleship. Jesus still calls all who would follow him to deny themselves, take up their cross, and identify themselves with his new community. The results of evangelism include obedience to Christ, incorporation into his Church and responsible service in the world.

## Gloria Patri

## Children's Message(Video)

## Passing of the Peace

## Doxology #815

## Offertory Prayer

Thank you to those who participated in the Next Gen Family day yesterday. We enjoyed the scavenger hunt around Lexington and the fellowship time together.

## Anthem(VIDEO)

"The tale of Jonah"

## Bumper Video

## We Hear God's Word

## Message

Jonah: The Reluctant Prophet (selections from Jonah)

## We Respond to God's Word

## Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

## Invitation and Benediction

## Closing Hymn

#446 "We've a story to tell to the nations"

## Postlude

"Crown Him With Many Crowns"

arr. Jason D. Payne

Organ

## Announcement:

The Cradle Cross and Rosebud in the Sanctuary Sunday, April 18, 2021 in honor of Nolan Everett Schabner, son of Megan Gregory and Brandon Schabner. Nolan was born March 17, 2021.

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