

032220

#1 (Lead-in: ?) ***God continues to work in our lives, and in the world.***

(Liturgist: ?)

Psalm 89:1-4 (NLT)

¹I will sing of the LORD's unfailing love forever! Young and old will hear of your faithfulness. ²Your unfailing love will last forever. Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens. ³The LORD said, "I have made a covenant with David, my chosen servant. I have sworn this oath to him: ⁴'I will establish your descendants as kings forever; they will sit on your throne from now until eternity.'"

#2 (Lead-in:) ***People throughout time have been concerned with how to live rightly. A holy life is focused on relationships. To live rightly involves love.***

(Liturgist: ?)

Mark 12:28-34 (NLT)

²⁸One of the teachers of religious law was standing there listening to the debate. He realized that Jesus had answered well, so he asked, "Of all the commandments, which is the most important?" ²⁹Jesus replied, "The most important commandment is this: 'Listen, O Israel! The LORD our God is the one and only LORD. ³⁰And you must love the LORD your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength.' ³¹The second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' No other commandment is greater than these." ³²The teacher of religious law replied, "Well said, Teacher. You have spoken the truth by saying that there is only one God and no other. ³³And I know it is important to love him with all my heart and all my understanding and all my strength, and to love my neighbor as myself. This is more important than to offer all of the burnt offerings and sacrifices required in the law."

³⁴Realizing how much the man understood, Jesus said to him, "You are not far from the Kingdom of God." And after that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

#3 (Lead-in:) ***When words and actions are not consistent, our acts tell the truth we live by, and show whether our hearts are involved, or not.***

(Liturgist: ?)

Mark 12:35-44 (NLT)

³⁵Later, as Jesus was teaching the people in the Temple, he asked, "Why do the teachers of religious law claim that the Messiah is the son of David? ³⁶For David himself, speaking under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, said, 'The LORD said to my Lord, Sit in the place of honor at my right hand until I humble your enemies beneath your feet.' ³⁷Since David himself called the Messiah 'my Lord,' how can the Messiah be his son?" The large crowd listened to him with great delight. ³⁸Jesus also taught: "Beware of these teachers of religious law! For they like to parade around in flowing robes and receive respectful greetings as they walk in the marketplaces. ³⁹And how they love the seats of honor in the synagogues and the head table at banquets. ⁴⁰Yet they shamelessly cheat widows out of their property and then pretend to be pious by making long prayers in public. Because of this, they will be more severely punished." ⁴¹Jesus sat down near the collection box in the Temple and watched as the crowds dropped in their money. Many rich people put in large amounts. ⁴²Then a poor widow came and dropped in two small coins.

⁴³Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has given more than all the others who are making contributions. ⁴⁴For they gave a tiny part of their surplus, but she, poor as she is, has given everything she had to live on."