

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2024

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come to worship the Lord our God, the creator of all the universe.

All: We come to celebrate God's claim upon us and God's gift of love and life.

One: We come, because we are invited to come.

All: So come, let us worship the Lord.

***OPENING HYMN** "God, You Spin the Whirling Planets" GtG 23

1. God, you spin the whirling planets,
fill the seas and spread the plain,
mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.
We, created in your image,
would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace, and mercy
and the truth that makes us free.

2. You have called us to be faithful
in our life and ministry.
We respond in grateful worship
joined in one community.
When we blur your gracious image,
focus us and make us whole.
Healed and strengthened as your people,
we move onward toward your goal.

3. God, your word is still creating,
calling us to life made new.
Now reveal to us fresh vistas
where there's work to dare and do.

(continued...)

**Keep us clear of all distortion.
Polish us with loving care.
Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.**

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God, we confess that without you, we are not whole.
Yet we have tried to hide from you,
for we have done wrong.
We have lived for ourselves,
and apart from you.
We have turned from our neighbors,
and refused to bear the burdens of others.
We have ignored the pain of the world,
and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed.
In your great mercy forgive our sins
and free us from selfishness.
Wash us with your love and cleanse us with your grace
that we may choose your will
and obey your commandments;
and day by day move closer to the people you would have us be.
Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The God who knows you through and through,
whose own body and blood were given for your freedom,
who calls you to renewal every day,
hears your repentance and by grace has made you clean.

All: **Relentlessly God seeks us out
with abundant grace and boundless mercy.
This is good news!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,
we are cleansed and made whole!**

(continued...)

One: Give thanks to God,
whose welcome is for each one of us and for all of us together.

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

(From your seat, a brief sign of peace may be shared: a wave of the hand, a nod of the head, etc.)

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:40-45

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Angry Caring. Caring Anger.” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “Just as I Am, without One Plea” GtG 442 *(Verses 1, 3, & 4)*

1. **Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

3. **Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

4. **Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come!**

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from “*A Declaration of Faith*”)

(next page...)

God sends us to exercise compassion.

**In the end the Lord will judge all persons
by the simple, unremembered acts of kindness
they did or failed to do
for the least of their sisters and brothers.**

**We acknowledge God is at work here and now
when people show personal concern for each other
and work to make helping agencies,
including the church itself,
more compassionate.**

**We believe God sends us
to risk our own peace and comfort
in compassion for our neighbors.**

**We are to give to them and receive from them,
accepting everyone we meet as a person;
to be sensitive to those who suffer in body or mind;
to help and accept help
in ways that affirm dignity and responsibility.**

**We must not limit our compassion to those we judge deserving,
for we ourselves do not deserve the compassion of God.**

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Hear us, O God...
All: ...be gracious to us.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**For your gifts that live all around us in creation, O God,
we give you thanks.**

**For your gifts that come from the servanthood of your Son, O God,
we give you praise.**

**For the gifts that arise in our daily lives
through the work of your Holy Spirit, O God,
we give you thanks.**

(continued...)

**With faith and hope, we offer our gifts to you.
Use them, even as you use us,
to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ,
to your glory. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The prayer continues...)

The Lord's Prayer (Contemporary)

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

(next page...)

Sing “Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken” GtG 498 (*Verses 1, 3, & 4*)

**1. Loaves were broken, words were spoken
by the Galilean shore.
Jesus, Bread of Life from heaven,
was their food forevermore.
By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

(Please hold the bread so that we might partake of it together, to remind us of our participation in this sacrament as a community.)

**3. Loaves are broken, words are spoken,
as in faith we gather here.
Jesus speaks across the ages:
“I am with you; do not fear!”
By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

(Please drink the cup as you are served, reminding us of our individual participation in this sacrament and our personal commitment to our Lord.)

**4. By the loaves you break and give us,
send us in your name to share
bread for which the millions hunger,
words that tell your love and care.
By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

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Prayer

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN “Called as Partners in Christ’s Service” GtG 761

1. **Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfill God's chosen end.**
2. **Christ's example, Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer,
all God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.**
3. **Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues, free and fair.**
4. **So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

One: ...And let the gathered people of God say...
All: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

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