

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, MAY 26, 2024

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

TRINITY SUNDAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, people of God, to give thanks and sing.

All: **We come from our various lives to offer ourselves in this time of worship.**

One: Come, children of God, to be touched and blessed.

All: **We come in anticipation of God's presence here and God's work in our midst.**

One: Come, servants of God, to be taught and commissioned.

All: **We come to be instilled with purpose and filled with a mission.**

Unison: **We come to worship the Lord our God.**

***OPENING HYMN** "Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice" GtG 163

1. **Wild and lone the prophet's voice
echoes through the desert still,
calling us to make a choice,
bidding us to do God's will:
"Turn from sin and be baptized;
cleanse your heart and mind and soul.
Quitting all the sins you prized,
yield your life to God's control.**

2. **"Bear the fruit repentance sows:
lives of justice, truth, and love.
Trust no other claim than those;
set your heart on things above.
Soon the Lord will come in power,
burning clean the threshing floor:
then will flames the chaff devour;
wheat alone shall fill God's store."**

(continued...)

3. **With such preaching, stark and bold,
John proclaimed salvation near,
and his timeless warnings hold
words of hope to all who hear.
So we dare to journey on,
led by faith through ways untrod,
till we come at last like John
to behold the Lamb of God.**

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Music: ABERYSTWYTH, Joseph Parry, 1876. Public Domain.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of compassion and mercy, hear us as we make our confession.
You call, but we do not listen.
You show us your path,
but we prefer our own way and follow our own desires.
We turn not from our evil ways,
nor do we sacrifice those treasures that give us status.
We say we obey you, but our deeds betray us.
By your grace renew us, and cleanse us of sin.
Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you,
that we might heed your call and love others as Christ loves us.
In his name we pray. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God desires relationship with us, and reconciliation for all of creation.
Jesus comes bearing the good news of forgiveness and transformation.
Receive the good news:

All: **We are covered by God's grace and forgiven in Jesus Christ and given
new life. Thanks be to God!**

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 1:1-20

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Ready, Get Set...” by Pastor Bill Vincent

*HYMN “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind” GtG 169 (*Verses 1-2*)

1. **Dear Lord and Father of mankind,
forgive our foolish ways;
re clothe us in our rightful mind,
in purer lives thy service find,
in deeper reverence, praise.**
2. **In simple trust like theirs who heard
beside the Syrian sea
the gracious calling of the Lord,
let us, like them, without a word
rise up and follow thee.**

Words: John Greenleaf Whittier, 1872

Music: REST, Frederick Charles Maker, 1887

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

**In forming his people and sending them into the world
Jesus called individuals to be disciples.
They were to share the joy of his companionship,
to understand and obey his teachings,
and to follow him in life and death.
We confess that Christians today are called to discipleship.
Life shared with Christ and shaped by Christ
is God's undeserved gift to each of us.
It is also God's demand upon every one of us,
never perfectly fulfilled by any of us.
Forgiven by God and supported by our siblings in Christ,
we strive to become more faithful and effective
in our daily practice of the Christian life.**

“A Declaration of Faith” is Copyright 1977, 1991, the Office of the General Assembly, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); adopted (1977) “as a contemporary statement of faith, a reliable aid for Christian study, liturgy, and inspiration, with the clear understanding that” it is not approved as a part of the *Book of Confessions*.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Lord, in your mercy...

All: ...touch us by your grace, and fill us with your courage.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Traditional)

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.

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

Holy God, we trust in the provisions of your love
and the abundance of your grace.

We give you thanks for every blessing and spiritual gift
you have poured out upon us.

Let the gifts of our lives
be a source of blessing in your world.

Use us, and the gifts we bring,
for your holy work of transformation,
as we seek to go where Jesus leads us. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN "Jesus Calls Us" GtG 720

1. Jesus calls us: o'er the tumult
of our life's wild, restless sea;
day by day his sweet voice soundeth
saying, "Christian, follow me."

(continued...)

2. **Jesus calls us from the worship
of the vain world's golden store,
from each idol that would keep us,
saying, "Christian, love me more."**

3. **In our joys and in our sorrows,
days of toil and hours of ease,
still he calls, in cares and pleasures,
"Christian, love me more than these."**

4. **Jesus calls us: by thy mercies,
Savior, may we hear thy call,
give our hearts to thine obedience,
serve and love thee best of all.**

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852
Music: GALILEE, William H. Jude, 1887
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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