

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE

UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP

**We sing a new song, O Lord,
because you have done marvelous things.
Your steadfast love has sustained us
and allowed us to magnify it
by sharing it with all those of your creation.
Your Holy Spirit has led us in changing times,
reminding us of what will never change:
your love for us.
Therefore, we come before you this morning full of gratitude
for the joy and hope and confidence you inspire in us –
symbolized by the tulips, hyacinths and flowering shrubs,
signaling a new season.
Let us worship God by singing a familiar song
with fresh life and hope and joy.**

***OPENING HYMN “This Is My Father’s World” GtG 370**

- 1. This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas,
his hand the wonders wrought.**
- 2. This is my Father's world.
O, let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.**

(continued...)

**This is my Father's world.
The battle is not done:
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heaven be one.**

Words: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1901
Music: TERRA BEATA, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915;
harm. Edward Shippen Barnes, 1926, alt.
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, in spite of all the evidence of your steadfast love and your constant creation of new reasons for joy, hope, and love, we confess that we sometimes forget that bounty. We become downhearted. We forget that your love is your gift to us from our birth and that nothing can sever that love. Forgive us for forgetting our birthright. Forgive us for forgetting to share your love with all people. Do not remember our sins, but forget not your love for us as we make this sincere confession. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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 READINGS Psalm 98:1-9
John 15:9-17

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Rev. Jay Summerville

***HYMN** “We Are One in the Spirit” GtG 300
(They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love)

**1. We are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord;
we are one in the Spirit;
we are one in the Lord,
and we pray that all unity
may one day be restored:**

Refrain:

**And they’ll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.**

**2. We will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand;
we will walk with each other;
we will walk hand in hand,
and together we’ll spread the news
that God is in our land:**

(Refrain)

**3. We will work with each other;
we will work side by side;
we will work with each other;
we will work side by side,
and we’ll guard human dignity
and save human pride:**

(Refrain)

**4. All praise to the Father,
from whom all things come,
and all praise to Christ Jesus,
God’s only Son,
and all praise to the Spirit,
who makes us one:**

(Refrain)

Words and Music (THEY’LL KNOW WE ARE CHRISTIANS): Peter
Scholtes, 1966
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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In Jesus of Nazareth true humanity was realized once for all. Jesus, a Palestinian Jew, lived among his own people and shared their needs, temptations, joys and sorrows. He expressed the love of God in word and deed and became a brother to all kinds of sinful people. But his complete obedience led him into conflict with his people. His life and teaching judged their goodness, religious aspirations, and national hopes. Many rejected him and demanded his death. In giving himself freely for them he took upon himself the judgment under which all people stand convicted. God raised him from the dead, vindicating him as Messiah and Lord. The victim of sin became the victor, and won the victory over sin and death for all people.

(from The Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Risen and living Lord,
we give you thanks
for the hope you have given us
through the life, death,
and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
Out of our gratitude, we bring our gifts.
By your Spirit, may they become
an outpouring of your grace,
and signs of your love and presence in
our community.
Through Jesus Christ we pray. 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 (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.**

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer

**Holy one,
Thank you for gathering us at your table,
and offering tangible signs
of your presence, mercy and love.
Send us from this place
with Good News on our lips,
that death has been defeated,
and new life has begun. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!” GtG 839

1. **Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
O what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

Refrain:

**This is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long;
this is my story; this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

2. **Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending, bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

(Refrain)

3. **Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

(Refrain)

Words: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1873

Music: ASSURANCE, Phoebe Palmer Knapp, 1873

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

We'll celebrate Pentecost Sunday on May 19th with a joint worship service at First Church:Union at 10:00 am.

A fellowship lunch will follow. The Union PW will provide sandwiches and salads. Members of the Pacific church are asked to bring desserts.