

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2024

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

NINTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sing to the Lord, all you people!
All: **For the Lord has done marvelous things!**
One: From morning to evening, God showers us with blessings.
All: **From evening to morning, God blesses us with rest.**
One: So come this day to rejoice in God's goodness.
All: **We come to worship the Lord.**

***OPENING HYMN** "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" GtG 662 (*Tune 150*)

1. **Christ, whose glory fills the skies;
Christ, the true, the only light;
Sun of Righteousness, arise;
triumph o'er the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.**

2. **Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return
till thy mercy's beams I see;
till they inward light impart,
cheer my eyes and warm my heart.**

3. **Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.**

Words: Charles Wesley, 1740. Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr.
William Henry Monk, 1861; harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in Jesus, we have seen your glory. Yet our sinfulness often blocks out the light of Christ. We are quick to accuse and slow to confess. We find faults easily in others while ignoring our own shortcomings. We protect what is familiar and reject what is unknown. We admire those with courage but excuse ourselves when we falter from the truth. Have mercy on us, compassionate God. Pour out your Holy Spirit and cleanse us with your grace, that day by day we might move closer to the people you would have us be. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: The God who made you and knows your every thought hears you now and forgives you all your sin.

All: Relentlessly God seeks us out with abundant grace and boundless mercy.

One: This is the good news in which we have been redeemed!

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! 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 1:21-39

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Those Pesky Unclean Spirits!” by Pastor Bill Vincent

*HYMN “Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit” GtG 181

1. "Silence! Frenzied, unclean spirit,"
cried God's healing, Holy One.
"Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it.
Flee as night before the sun."
At Christ's voice the demon trembled,
from its victim madly rushed,
while the crowd that was assembled
stood in wonder, stunned, and hushed.

(continued...)

**2. Lord, the demons still are thriving
in the gray cells of the mind:
tyrant voices, shrill and driving,
twisted thoughts that grip and bind,
doubts that stir the heart to panic,
fears distorting reason's sight,
guilt that makes our loving frantic,
dreams that cloud the soul with fright.**

**3. Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit,
in our mind and in our heart.
Speak your word that when we hear it
all our demons shall depart.
Clear our thought and calm our feeling;
still the fractured, warring soul.
By the power of your healing
make us faithful, true, and whole.**

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

**God called all God had made good.
We declare that the universe of matter, energy, and life
is God's good creation in all its parts.
Even though evil has emerged within God's creation,
we may work and play in it
and explore it with wonder and joy.
Evil is whatever works against the loving purpose of God
for human beings and all creation.
Natural forces may have evil effects.
Sinful human choices produce evil results.
Evil may become institutionalized in our social structures.
The power of evil to hurt and destroy,
to cut off the possibilities of full human life,
calls into question the power and goodness of God.
Whether we understand evil personally or impersonally,
we cannot explain how it originated in a world made good.
But we can affirm that evil is God's enemy as well as ours.**

(continued...)

**In Christ, God shared our agony over evil
and broke the back of its power
by bearing the worst it could do.
God works continually to overcome evil.
In the end it will be utterly defeated.
Therefore we have courage to endure evil,
to learn from it, and combat it.**

“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: Hear us, O God...
All: ...your mercy is great.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**O God, with faith and hope, we offer our gifts. Use them, even as you
use us, to accomplish your purposes of healing and renewal in Jesus Christ,
your Son, our Savior; in whose name 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 (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

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

Sing: "Feed Us, Lord" GtG 501

**1. Feed us, Lord.
Feed us, Lord.
In the broken bread,
be revealed again.
Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.**

**3. Fill us, Lord.
Fill us, Lord,
with the bread and wine
of the risen Christ.
Come and fill our hearts, O 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.)

**2. Quench us, Lord.
Quench us, Lord.
On this thirsty ground,
may your love flow down.
Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.**

**4. Lead us, Lord.
Lead us, Lord,
nourished here by Christ,
given strength for life.
Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.**

(next page...)

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Prayer

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation” GtG 503

1. **Lord, we have come at your own invitation,
chosen by you, to be counted your friends;
yours is the strength that sustains dedication;
ours, a commitment we know never ends.**
2. **Here, at your table, confirm our intention;
give it your seal of forgiveness and grace;
teach us to serve without pride or pretension,
Lord, in your kingdom, whatever our place.**
3. **When, at your table, each time of returning,
vows are renewed and our courage restored,
may we increasingly glory in learning
all that it means to accept you as Lord.**

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Feillee’s *Methode du plain-chant*, 1808. *Public Domain*

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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