

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 2024

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

NINETEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 46)*

- One: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."
All: **"Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea."**
One: The Lord says, "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth."
All: **"The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge."**
Unison: **Let us worship the Lord our God, our refuge and our strength.**

***OPENING HYMN** "I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art" GtG 624 *(Verses 1-3 & 5)*

1. **I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.**
2. **Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
reigning omnipotent in every place:
so come, O King, and our whole being sway;
shine on us with the light of thy pure day.**
3. **Thou art the life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
sustain us by thy faith and by thy power,
and give us strength in every trying hour.**
5. **Our hope is in no other save in thee;
our faith is built upon thy promise free;
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,
that in thy strength we evermore endure.**

(next page...)

Words: *Psalms*, Strasbourg, 1545; trans. Elizabeth Lee Smith, 1868
Music: TOULON, Genevan Psalter, 1551
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Saving God,
we confess that our faith is too small,
our fear is too great.
When we are overwhelmed,
we think you do not care enough for us.
When life is uncertain and risky,
we are not sure we can trust you with our whole hearts.
Even when you move among us in powerful ways,
we question who you are.
Forgive us and calm our fears, we pray.
Teach us to trust in your power to save
and guide us in every circumstance.
Draw us back into your steadfast love
and shape us into the likeness of your Son,
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from Psalm 103)*

One: "The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love."
All: **"As a parent has compassion for the children, so the Lord has compassion for those who revere the Lord."**
One: As the shepherd searches for the lost sheep, so the Lord seeks us out.
All: **The One who is the Way comes to show us the way.**
One: So rejoice and be glad, and give thanks for the grace of God.
All: **For in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen!**

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.
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 Mark 4:35-41
Mark 6:45-52

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “In the Storm” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “Give to the Winds Thy Fears” GtG 815

1. **Give to the winds thy fears;
hope, and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears;
God shall lift up thy head.**

2. **Through waves and clouds and storms
God gently clears the way.
Wait patiently; so shall this night
soon end in joyous day.**

3. **Leave to God's sovereign sway
to choose and to command.
So shalt thou, wondering, own God's way,
how wise, how strong God's hand!**

4. **Let us in life, in death,
thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our final breath
thy love and guardian care.**

Words: Paul Gerhardt, 1653; trans. John Wesley, 1737, alt.
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1872
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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**In life and in death we belong to God.
Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,
we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,
whom alone we worship and serve.**

**With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Saving God,
All: ...hear our prayer.

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.

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

We give thanks to you, O Lord,
for your sustaining presence and abundant grace.
Receive now these gifts we bring to you
out of your generous provision in our lives.
May all we return to you
be used faithfully
to promote the peace, justice and healing
you desire for us and your world. Amen.

SENDING

*CLOSING HYMN "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" GtG 8

1. Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:

(continued...)

**O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**2. O Savior, whose almighty word
the wind and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid its rage did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**3. O Holy Spirit, who did brood
upon the chaos wild and rude,
and bade its angry tumult cease,
and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**4. O Trinity of love and power,
all travelers guard in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad praise from air and land and sea.**

Words: William Whiting, 1860, alt.
Music: MELITA, John Bacchus Dykes, 1861
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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