

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 4, 2024

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ says, "Come away to a deserted place and rest a while."
We have come for relief from life's turmoil.
All: **We come to be strengthened in our inner being.**
One: God gathers us as a shepherd gathers her sheep.
All: **God's steadfast love surrounds us here.**
One: We are reminded of God's enduring faithfulness.
All: **God's presence evokes our joyous worship.**

***OPENING HYMN** "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" GtG 509

1. **All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering.
Here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.**
2. **All who hunger, never strangers,
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here, in joy, we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.**

(continued...)

3. **All who hunger, sing together;
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here, in peace, we have been led.
Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.**

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of goodness and grace,
we confess that we can get so busy and distracted
that we lose sight of your love and care for us.
We forget to live in gratitude
and fail to embody lives of goodness and mercy.
Forgive us, heal us, and lead us down gentle paths
that restore our souls and our world. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(based on Psalm 103 & Ephesians 3)*

One: The river of God's mercy
runs deeper and wider than our sin.
All: **God removes our sins
as far as the heavens
are above the earth.**
One: Through the power of the Spirit that is at work within us
God forgives our sins and strengthens our inner beings.
All: **So now we live knowing the love of Christ,
which surpasses all knowledge
and fills us with the fullness of God.**

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 READING Mark 6:30-44

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken” GtG 498

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.
2. Loaves were broken, words were spoken
in a quiet room one night.
In the bread and wine you gave them,
Christ, you came as Light from Light.
By your body broken for us,
by your wine of life outpoured,
Jesus, feed again your people.
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.
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.
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.

(next page...)

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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.**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

**The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Lord, in your mercy...
All: ...hear our prayer.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Gracious God, we thank you
for enriching our lives with all that is good
and for providing for us in times of trial.
Make us ever more mindful
of the blessings you grant us each day.
Help us to be good stewards of all you give.
And deepen our trust in your love and mercy.
Increase our thanksgiving
by guiding our offerings to help others in need,
as a witness to your love, peace and justice,
so that the world may more deeply know
fullness of life in you. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.
All: **And also with you.**
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: **We lift them to the Lord.**
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: **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.**

(continued...)

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

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.**

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

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

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Prayer

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Hope of the World” GtG 734

**1. Hope of the world, thou Christ of great compassion:
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;
save us, thy people, from consuming passion,
who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.**

**2. Hope of the world, God's gift from highest heaven,
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life:
still let thy Spirit unto us be given
to heal earth's wounds and end our bitter strife.**

**3. Hope of the world, afoot on dusty highways,
showing to wandering souls the path of light:
walk thou beside us lest the tempting byways
lure us away from thee to endless night.**

**4. Hope of the world, who by thy cross didst save us
from death and deep despair, from sin and guilt:
we render back the love thy mercy gave us;
take thou our lives and use them as thou wilt.**

**5. Hope of the world, O Christ, o'er death victorious,
who by this sign didst conquer grief and pain:
we would be faithful to thy gospel glorious;
thou art our Lord! Thou dost forever reign!**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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