

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JULY 27, 2025

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Deuteronomy 6, Joshua 24, I Kings 18, & Psalm 96)*

One: Choose this day whom you will serve.
All: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
One: Cry aloud, and call upon God's name.
All: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
One: Declare God's glory among the nations.
All: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.
One: Sing to the Lord, and bless God's name.
All: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

***OPENING HYMN** "Choose for Today" *[Tune 624]*

1. Choose for today the God whom you will serve.
Who can you follow now without reserve?
Some limp along with idols they create.
Some never stop to contemplate their fate.

2. Do things we own have power to satisfy?
Is wisdom there, on which we can rely?
Will our possessions hear us when we plead?
Will they respond and help in times of need?

3. Will human resources hasten to our aid,
when we are hurting, troubled, or afraid?
Can we depend on others to supply
loving acceptance when we rage or cry?

4. Surely we need a greater God than these,
one we can praise at work or on our knees,
one who will hear and answer when we pray,
one who will help us each and every day.

(continued...)

**5. Sing a new song to God who made us all.
Worship the one who holds all worlds in thrall.
Who judges, loves, forgives and heals each one,
raising us up, despite what we have done.**

**6. Choose for all time and worship God alone,
knowing the things of earth are not your own.
Honor the one who offers grace and peace,
whose watchful care and love will never cease.**

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Music: TOULON, Genevan Psalter, 1551; adapt. from GENEVAN 124. Public Domain.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, forgive us when we discredit the good word that is you.
Our faith is so shallow and our good works so limited.
We have not dared to trust you fully.
We have not expected your promises to be fulfilled among us.
We are more likely to complain than to appreciate,
to wallow in cries of agony and loss than to pour out joy and gratitude.
We have guarded our own interests,
and relied on limited understandings and lingering doubts.
We repeat our mistakes instead of learning from them.
We try to keep you out of our lives
instead of turning to you daily and trusting your providence.
We confess our faith even as we confess our failure.
Turn us around, O God;
forgive us and draw us closer to you. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Remember that Jesus Christ gave life itself for our sins.
All: **Through him our sins are forgiven and we are given new life.**
One: Awaken to the assurance of your pardon,
and arise to the promise of Christ's redeeming grace.
All: **The good news is ours to receive,
to integrate into our lives,
and to pass on to others.**

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 Luke 7:1-23,36-50

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Put It into Practice” by Pastor Bill Vincent

*HYMN “To My Precious Lord” GtG 704

Refrain:

**To my precious Lord I bring my flask of fragrant oil;
kneeling down, I kiss his feet, anoint them with the oil.**

**1. Jesus, who for my sake walked the road to Calvary,
with each step has marked the imprint of his love for me.**

Refrain:

**2. Jesus, who for my sake had his feet nailed to the cross,
with his blood has washed and healed me, paid the heavy cost.**

Refrain:

**3. When in clouds of glory you come back to earth again,
Jesus, with your love, embrace and claim me as your friend.**

Words: Chung Kwan Park, 1983; English trans. Edward Poitras, 2001; rev. Mary Louise Bringle, 2011

Music: Chung Kwan Park, 1983; arr. Paul Junggap Huh and Alfred V. Fedak, 2012

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

“My Faith Looks Up to Thee” GtG 829 (*Verses 1-3*)

1. My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray;
take all my guilt away;
O let me from this day
be wholly thine!
2. May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou has died for me,
O may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!

(continued...)

3. While life's dark maze I tread
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day;
wipe sorrow's tears away;
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.

Words: Ray Palmer, 1830
Music: OLIVET, Lowell Mason, 1831, alt.
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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*

Gracious God,
we know that every good and perfect gift comes from you.
With glad and generous hearts,
we give back what rightfully belongs to you.
With open hearts and willing hands,
may we joyfully use your gifts to share the good news of Jesus Christ,
your indescribable gift to this world. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” GtG 738

1. **O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**
2. **Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.**
3. **Teach me thy patience, still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong.**
4. **In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.**

Words: Washington Gladden, 1879

Music: MARYTON, Henry Percy Smith, 1874

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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