

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 3, 2025

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We trust that the Lord is with us
All: **and all shall be made well.**
One: Our faith is the light that guides us
All: **through work, life and the world.**
One: Rejoice and know that God is here.
All: **Hallelujah! Praise the Lord.**

***OPENING HYMN** “Here in This Place” GtG 401
(Gather Us In)

**1. Here in this place the new light is streaming;
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**2. We are the young, our lives are a myst’ry,
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.**

(continued...)

**3. Here we will take the wine and the water;
here we will take the bread of new birth.
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**4. Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light-years away:
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

Words and Music (GATHER US IN): Marty Haugen, 1979 ©
1982 GIA Publications, Inc., *All rights reserved.*
Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE
LICENSE #A-739819. All rights reserved.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Faithful God, trusting you does not always come easy
when each day we are faced with the ugliness of the world.
We do not believe that love conquers fear.
We are not convinced that power comes through weakness.
We cannot conceive how you could heal us.
So we have asked for miracles,
but we haven't asked for you.
We are more interested in securing your support for our desires
than in conforming ourselves to your will.
Forgive us our sins and return us to health, gracious Lord.
Forgive our lack of faith,
and renew our trust in you,
for we would be disciples of Jesus,
in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(based on Psalms 30 & 130)*

One: If the Lord kept count of all our sins, who could stand?
But great is God's faithfulness!
With God there is forgiveness and great power to redeem.

All: God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning.

One: God has turned our mourning to dancing, forgiving us fully and freely.

All: Our souls will not be silent.
As forgiven people, we will praise the Lord,
and love with boldness and generosity.

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 8:40-56

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "Saving Touch" by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** "The Woman Hiding in the Crowd" GtG 178

- 1. The woman hiding in the crowd
reached for Christ's garment hem
that simply by the touch of it
she might be healed within.**
- 2. From Christ went forth the healing grace,
her health and life restored.
"Who touched my clothes?" the Savior asked,
but no one said a word.**
- 3. The woman knelt before him then
with joy and anxious fear,
and Jesus blessed her lovingly:
"In peace go forth from here."**

(continued...)

**4. The burdens now that weigh us down,
the sins we fear to speak,
the ache of heart and empty soul
we lay before your feet.**

**5. So touch us, Lord, with healing grace
and make us whole again
that we may always live in you
and know your peace within.**

Words: J. Dudley Weaver Jr., 2008 © 2008 J. Dudley Weaver Jr.,
All rights reserved.

Music: SIMMONS, William P. Rowan, 1992 © 1993 Selah
Publishing Co., Inc., *All rights reserved.*

*Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE
LICENSE #A-739819. All rights reserved.*

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from *A Brief Statement 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.**

**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!"**

**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: Merciful Lord...
All: ...touch us in your grace.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Holy God,
who hears our prayers and answers them
and gives us more than we can ask or imagine,
give us a joy for generosity
and a genuine love for those who are in need.
Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts and upon our lives
that we might imitate your coming reign
of justice, peace, and love,
bringing healing and hope to the world.
In Christ's name we pray. 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 (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

(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.)

**5. Heal us, Lord.
Heal us, Lord,
in the blood that’s shed,
broken body shared.
Come and heal 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.**

Words and Music (FEED US): Greg Scheer,
2007 © 2007 Greg Scheer
*Used by permission through CCLI License
#11178434 & #20702248.*

Prayer

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “We Come to You for Healing, Lord” GtG 796

1. We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit’s touch
we may again be whole.
2. As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
we know you come among us still
with power to heal again.
3. You touch us through physicians’ skills,
through nurses’ gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends
who lift our lives in prayer.
4. Through nights of pain and wakefulness,
through days when strength runs low,
grant us your gift of patience, Lord,
your calming peace to know.
5. We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.

Words: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 2002 © 2006 GIA
Publications, Inc., *All rights reserved.*
Music: LAND OF REST, American folk melody. Public Domain
Music Arr.: Annabel Morris Buchanan, 1938 © 1938, ren. The
H.W. Gray Company (admin. Alfred Music Publishing), *All
rights reserved.*
*Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE
LICENSE #A-739819. All rights reserved.*

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

(next page...)

The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, and Prayer for Illumination are written by Carol Prickett, Evie Hughes, and Roger Gench, and used by permission. © Presbyterian Outlook, 2024 & 2025.

The Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, Prayer for Illumination, and Prayer of Dedication are used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2015.

The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission of United Church Press from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1996 by United Church Press.

The Prayers of the People (adapted) are used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Connections Worship Companion: Year B Volume 2*. Copyright 2024.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving is used by permission from *The Service for the Lord's Day: Supplemental Liturgical Resource 1* © 1984 The Westminster Press. All rights reserved.