

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 17, 2025

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

TWENTIETH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God is good and loving to the faithful.
All: **Give thanks and praise for all that God has done for us.**
One: God is good!
All: **Praise the Lord!**

***OPENING HYMN “The Lord Is God” GtG 63**

**1. The Lord is God, the Lord alone!
Give honor, thanks, and praise
to God, the maker of all things
and giver of our days.**

**2. With all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind and might,
O people, love the Lord your God,
the source of truth and light.**

**3. At night or day, at home, away,
together and apart,
O children, take these holy words
and keep them in your heart.**

**4. The Lord is God, the Lord alone!
Give honor, thanks, and praise
to God, the maker of all things
and giver of our days.**

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have been distracted with many things
and have not loved you with our whole heart and strength.
We have not paid attention to your Word.
We have allowed the poor to be neglected
and the weak to be oppressed.
We have been impatient in worship
and insincere in our dealings with others.
We have ignored signs of injustice
and disregarded warnings of judgment.
Forgive us, we pray, and teach us repentance.
Free us from our habits of pride,
and make us steadfast in faith,
that we may live as those who are reconciled with you
in Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from Romans 12:1-2)

One: "I appeal to you, therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God to
present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship."
All: **"Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the
renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of
God – what is good and acceptable and perfect."**
One: Christ is merciful to all who turn to him in repentance.
Rejoice in God's grace. Respond with love.
Proclaim the good news with me:
All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to 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 Luke 10:25-42

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “Together We Serve” GtG 767

1. Together we serve,
united by love,
inviting God's world
to the glorious feast.
We work and we pray
through sorrow and joy,
extending God's love
to the last and the least.

2. We seek to become
a beacon of hope,
a lamp for the heart
and a light for the feet.
We learn, year by year,
to let love shine through
until we see Christ
in each person we meet.

3. We welcome the scarred,
the wealthy, the poor,
the busy, the lonely,
and all who need care.
We offer a home
to those who will come,
our hands quick to help,
our hearts ready to dare.

4. Together, by grace,
we witness and work,
remembering Jesus,
in whom we grow strong.
Together we serve
in Spirit and truth,
remembering love
is the strength of our song.

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith & The Study Catechism: Full Version*)

**All: 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.**

One: How do you live for the love of God?

**All: I love because God first loved me.
God loves me in Christ with a love that never ends.
Amazed by grace, I no longer live for myself.
I live for the Lord who died and rose again,
triumphant over death, for my sake.
Therefore, I take those around me to heart,
especially those in particular need,
knowing that Christ died for them no less than for me.**

(from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Book of Confessions; and from *The Study Catechism: Full
Version*, Copyright ©1998 Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: God of compassion...
All: ...have mercy on us, and hear our prayer.

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.**

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Most generous God,
you have blessed us with gifts to serve and share.
We give today in thankfulness,
for the continuing growth of your kingdom in the world.
Give us wisdom as a church,
so that this offering is used
for the sharing of your word
and the service of your people.
In the name of the One that gave us everything we are and have. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Take Thou Our Minds, Dear Lord” GtG 707

- 1. Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray;
give us the mind of Christ each passing day;
teach us to know the truth that sets us free;
grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.**
- 2. Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own;
come thou within our souls and claim thy throne;
help us to shed abroad thy deathless love;
use us to make the earth like heaven above.**
- 3. Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway;
have in our inmost souls thy perfect way;
guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease;
guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.**
- 4. Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will;
through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill.
We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all;
we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.**

Words: William H. Foulkes, stanzas 1-3, 1918, stanza 4, c. 1920
Music: HALL, Calvin Weiss Laufer, 1918
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

All: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

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