

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2026

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

FOURTH SUNDAY after the EPIPHANY

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP (*based on Psalm 15*)

One: Lord, we come into your sanctuary with eagerness.
All: **May we hear your call and speak your truth.**
One: Lord, we come to abide with you in love.
All: **Gather us in honest and faithful community.**
One: Lord, prepare us to be people of hope and grace.
All: **Kindle in us courage to live as brave and faithful disciples.**
One: Let us worship our God together in this holy place.
All: **Alleluia. AMEN**

***OPENING HYMN** “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus” GtG 82

1. **Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.**

2. **Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

Words: Charles Wesley, 1744

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1830; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906 *Public Domain*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we come before you in confession.

You have showered us with blessings, but we hoard those gifts, refusing to share with our neighbors in need.

You have given us freedom to live justly, but we choose to oppress and judge others.

You have called us to live in peaceful community, but we sow discord and breed fear among ourselves.

Forgive us. Soften our hearts and open our minds to hear your call. Inspire us to act justly, love fiercely, and walk in your way each and every day.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE:	Micah 6: 1-8	(NRSV)
	1 Corinthians 1: 18-31	(NRSV)
	Matthew 5: 1-12	(NRSV)

SERMON by Rev. Elizabeth Kanerva

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH “The Apostles Creed” (*Traditional*)

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
 who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
 born of the Virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;

(continued ...)

he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Prayer of Dedication*

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table –

SING: “Come to the Table of Grace” GtG 507 (*acapella*) lead by Rev. Kanorva

1. **Come to the table of grace.**
Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table;
it's not yours or mine.
Come to the table of grace.
2. **Come to the table of peace...**
3. **Come to the table of love...**
4. **Come to the table of hope...**
(continued ...)
5. **Come to the table of joy...**

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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

(With the passing of the bread, please wait until all have been served so that all may partake together, reflecting our unity in Christ.)

(With the passing of the cup, please partake as soon as received as an expression of our personal relationship with Christ.)

Unison Prayer -

We give you thanks and praise, O God,
that you have fed us with your mercy
and poured out your Spirit in this place.
Continue to nourish and fill us each day,
that we may live as your beloved people;
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “*O for a World*” GtG 372

1. **O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**
2. **O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.**
3. **We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.**
4. **The poor are rich; the weak are strong; the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.**
5. **O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.**

Text: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987; © 1990 Medical Mission Sisters

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*Music (AZMON, CM): Carl Gotthelf Gläser 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

***Standing if able.**