

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are so happy to have you join us for this Service of the Lord's Day. We acknowledge this Sunday as the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(Psalm 105:1-8, 45b NKJV)*

One: Oh, give thanks to the Lord! Call upon His Name; Make known His Deeds among the peoples!

All: Sing to Him, sing psalms to Him; Talk of all His Wondrous Works!

One: Glory in His Holy Name; Let the hearts of those rejoice who seek the Lord!

All: Seek the Lord and His Strength; Seek His Face evermore!

One: Remember His Marvelous Works which He has done, His Wonders, and the Judgments of His Mouth,

All: O seed of Abraham His servant, You children of Jacob, His chosen ones!

One: He *is* the Lord our God; His Judgments *are* in all the earth.

All: He remembers His Covenant forever, The Word *which* He Commanded, for a thousand generations; Praise the Lord!

OPENING PRAYER

One: God of Wisdom and Guidance, fill this place with Your Spirit so that we may be complete in You.

***OPENING HYMN** “O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright” GtG 666

**1. O Splendor of God’s glory bright,
from light eternal bringing light;
O Light of Light, light’s living spring,
true Day, all days illumining:**

(...continued)

2. **Come, Holy Sun of heavenly love,
rain down your radiance from above,
and to our inward hearts convey
the Holy Spirit's cloudless ray.**
3. **O joyful be the passing day
with thoughts as clear as morning's ray,
with faith like noontide shining bright,
our souls unshadowed by the night.**
4. **O Lord, with each returning morn,
your image to our hearts is born;
O may we ever clearly view
our Savior and our God in you.**

*TEXT: Ambrose of Milan, c. 374; trans. Composite
MUSIC (PUER NOBIS NASCITUR, LM): Trier ms., 15th cent.;
adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609. Public Domain.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in Him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, in whom we live and move and have our being, whose Face is hidden from us by our sins, and whose Mercy we forget in the blindness of our hearts: Cleanse us from all our offenses, and deliver us from proud thoughts and vain desires, that with reverent and humble hearts we may draw near to You, confessing our faults, confiding in Your Grace, and finding in You our refuge and strength; through Jesus Christ Your Son.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the Good News! The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He Himself bore our sins in His Body on the Cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the Name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All: Amen

SONG OF PRAISE: “Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)” GtG 581

**1. Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen**

Text: Traditional liturgical text; Music: (GLORIA PATRI (Greateorex)): Henry W. Greateorex, 1851. Public Domain

THE PEACE

One: Let the Peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this Peace we were called as members of a single body [that is Jesus, the Christ].
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

One: God our Helper, by Your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the Scriptures are read and Your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into Your Truth and taught Your Will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 29:15-28 (NKJV)

EPISTLE

Romans 8:26-39 (NKJV)

PRAYER FOR SERMON

One: "Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in Your Sight, O Lord, my Strength and my Redeemer (Psalm 19:14, NKJV)."

SERMON "Love Conquers All" by Reverend Paula Cooper

PRAYER OF PRAISE

One: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!

All: Amen

***HYMN** "Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure" GtG 42

- 1. Your faithfulness, O Lord, is sure
in all your words, your gracious deeds;
you gently lift all burdened souls
and well provide for all our needs.**
- 2. The eyes of all are fixed on you;
by you their wants are all supplied;
your open hand is bountiful
and every soul is satisfied.**
- 3. Lord, you are just in all your ways,
and kind in everything you do;
forever near you stand to hear
and help all those who call on you.**
- 4. My mouth shall speak your praise, O Lord;
my soul shall bless your holy name;
let all things living join the song
of praise, from age to age the same.**

Words: Joy F. Patterson, 1989; © 1990 Joy F. Patterson. Used by permission through CCLI License #11178434 / #20702248. MUSIC(WINCHESTER NEW, LM): Musikalisches Handbuch, 1690; har. William Henry Havergal, 1847, alt. Public Domain

***UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(The 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.**

**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.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

One: "Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you."
(*Luke 6:38, NKJV*).

Reflection

***THE DOXOLOGY** GtG #606

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709 MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1531.
OLD HUNDREDTH LM Public Domain*

***Unison Prayer of Dedication**

**Lord, our Provider, we offer these gifts and ourselves to You in
return for a small portion of all the blessings and gifts You have
given us.**

***CLOSING HYMN “O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!” GtG 041**

- 1. O worship the King,
All glorious above!
O gratefully sing
God’s power and God’s love:
our shield and defender,
the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor
and girded with praise.**
- 2. O tell of God’s might;
O sing of God’s grace,
whose robe is the light,
whose canopy space,
whose chariots of wrath the
deep thunder-clouds form;
and bright is God’s path on
the wings of the storm.**
- 3. The earth with it store
of wonders untold,
Almighty, your power
has founded of old;
established it fast by
a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like
a mantle, the sea.**
- 4. Your bountiful care
what tongue can recite?
it breathes in the air;
it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it
descends to the plain,
and sweetly distills in
the dew and the rain.**

(...continued)

5. **Frail children of dust,
and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust,
nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender,
how firm to the end,
our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend.**

Text: Robert Grant, 1833, alt.

MUSIC(LYONS): Joseph Martin Kraus, 1784, alt

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

***Standing if able.**

Call to Worship: Psalm 105:1-8, 45b; NKJV.

The Opening Prayer: The Revised Common Lectionary.

*The Call to Confession; Unison Prayer of Confession; The Assurance of Pardon;
The Prayer for Illumination; A Prayer are used by permission from Book of
Common Worship, © 1993 Westminster/John Knox Press.*

Prayer for Sermon: Psalm 19:14; NKJV.

Offering Invitation: Luke 6:38, NKJV.