

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2020

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are waiting and listening for wisdom from God.
All: God is waiting to speak with all of us.
One: Do not fear to listen for God's word.
All: The law of God is not a threat, but a guide.
One: God is here to embrace and enlist us.
All: Our hearts rejoice in God's acceptance of us.
One: Do not be afraid to respond to God's love.
All: God's mercy inspires us to be merciful.
One: God is welcoming us to this time of worship.
Do not hesitate to enter this time of praise.
**All: We are here to be enlightened and empowered;
may our thoughts and words honor the Lord our God.**

***OPENING HYMN "God Is Here!" GtG 409**

One: God is here!
**All: As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.**
One: Here, as in the world around us,
**All: all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.**

One: Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
All: here are table, font, and pulpit;
One: here the cross has central place.
**All: Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,**

One: here, in newness and renewal,
All: God the Spirit comes to each.

One: Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
**All: Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.**

One: Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
**All: keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.**
One: Here, in this day's dedication,
All: all we have to give, receive:
One: we, who cannot live without you,
All: we adore you! We believe!

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, whose ways are not our ways,
we confess that we have discounted or ignored your commandments.
We have chosen our own standards
instead of seeking ultimate good.
We have substituted our illusions for your truth.
Our words and actions have hurt others and diminished us.
We have become so comfortable with our own sin
that we find it hard to recognize.
We have been so unforgiving of others' sin
that they cannot discern Christ in us.
Have mercy on us, O Lord.
Forgive us, renew us, restore us.
Shower upon us the gift of your grace,
that we may bear good fruit for your holy realm;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Our saving does not depend on anything we have done,
but comes from the grace of God alone
through faith in Jesus Christ.

This is the good news:
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Unison: Thanks be to God.

***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

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 20:1-4,7-9,12-20

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Pastor Bill Vincent

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(Contemporary)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

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

(Today's translation of the Apostles' Creed is reprinted by permission from Book of Common Worship, copyright 1993 Westminster/John Knox Press.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Merciful God,...

People: ...hear our prayer.

THE EUCHARIST

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

God of our Ancestors, whose laws are timeless and whose ways empower the church, we offer you the results of our labors. We would recognize all our moments and days as precious gifts from you. We dedicate ourselves anew to fulfilling your purposes through all you entrust to us. Bless all that the church seeks to accomplish in Christ's name. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: 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 each of the elements so that we might partake of them together,
reflecting our unity in Christ.)*

Prayer

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN “I Come with Joy” GtG 515**

One: I come with joy,
**All: a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,**
One: the life of Jesus to recall,
All: in love laid down for me.

One: I come
**All: with Christians far and near
to find,**
One: as all are fed,
**All: the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread.**

One: As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
All: each proud division ends.
One: The love that made us, makes us one,
All: and strangers now are friends.

One: The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
**All: is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here.**

One: Together met,
**All: together bound
by all that God has done,**
One: we'll go with joy,
**All: to give the world
the love that makes us one.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Pastor: ...And let the gathered people of God say...
People: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

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