

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 24, 2020

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

**THIRD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, O people of God, to give thanks and sing.  
**All: We come to celebrate the goodness of God.**  
One: Come, O people of God, to be refreshed and filled.  
**All: We come to entreat the compassion of God.**  
One: Come, O people of God, to search and wonder.  
**All: We come to encounter the mystery of God.**  
**Unison: Come, and with heart, mind, and soul, let us worship the Lord our God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind” GtG 169

One: Dear Lord and Father of mankind,  
**All: forgive our foolish ways;**  
One: reclothe us in our rightful mind,  
**All: in purer lives thy service find,  
in deeper reverence, praise.**

One: In simple trust like theirs who heard  
beside the Syrian sea  
the gracious calling of the Lord,  
**All: let us, like them, without a word  
rise up and follow thee.**

One: O Sabbath rest by Galilee,  
O calm of hills above,  
**All: where Jesus knelt to share with thee  
the silence of eternity,  
interpreted by love!**

One: Drop thy still dews of quietness,  
till all our strivings cease;  
**All: take from our souls the strain and stress,  
and let our ordered lives confess  
the beauty of thy peace.**

One: Breathe through the heats of our desire  
**All: thy coolness and thy balm;**  
One: let sense be dumb, let flesh retire;  
**All: speak through the earthquake, wind, and fire,  
O still, small voice of calm!**

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#### **\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Sovereign God, we reluctantly confess that we have installed our own gods in our lives. They take our time. They use our resources. They exact from us care and devotion. We do not like to hear that our way of life is endangered. Yet we sometimes realize that innocent steps into self-indulgence are really deliberate strides away from you. We hear distant echoes of warning and judgment. O God, we want to return to you before it is too late. We repent of everything in our lives that cuts us off from you. Forgive us, heal us, and lead us back to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

#### **\*SILENT CONFESSION**

#### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: We remind ourselves of the good news we have heard and in which we believe: that the Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in constant love.  
**All: If we confess our sins, God is quick to forgive and to restore us to new life.**  
One: So let us rejoice and be glad, proclaiming once again the good news.  
**All: For by the grace of God we are loved and accepted, forgiven and restored through Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia! Amen.**

#### **\*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 READINGS** Jonah 3:1-5,10  
Mark 1:14-20

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SERMON** by Pastor Bill Vincent

**\*AFFIRMATION 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.**

**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

Pastor: As you call to us, O God...

People: **...help us to heed your way.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Contemporary)*

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

## OFFERING

*Invitation*

*Reflection*

*\*Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Abundant God, the riches we know in life are not meant to satisfy us. They are placed in our hands that we might celebrate you and accomplish some good purpose. As we offer our gifts, work your transformation of love for the world. As we seek to follow where Jesus leads, bless the offering of our lives to fish for your people and embrace them in their need. Amen.**

## SENDING

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "Jesus Calls Us" GtG 720

One: Jesus calls us:

**All: o'er the tumult  
of our life's wild, restless sea;**

One: day by day his sweet voice soundeth  
saying,

**All: "Christian, follow me."**

One: Jesus calls us from the worship  
of the vain world's golden store,  
from each idol that would keep us,  
saying,

**All: "Christian, love me more."**

One: In our joys and in our sorrows,

**All: days of toil and hours of ease,**

One: still he calls, in cares and pleasures,

**All: "Christian, love me more than these."**

One: Jesus calls us:

**All: by thy mercies,**

**Savior, may we hear thy call,**

**give our hearts to thine obedience,**

**serve and love thee best of all.**

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**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

**People: ...Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

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