

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SEVENTH SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 47)*

One: "Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy!"

All: "For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, and a great ruler over all the earth!"

One: "Sing praises to God, sing praises!"

All: "For God is the ruler of all the earth!"

***OPENING HYMN** "Crown Him with Many Crowns" GtG 268

One: Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;

**All: hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!**

One: Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,

**All: and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.**

One: Crown him the Lord of love;

All: behold his hands and side,

One: rich wounds, yet visible above,

All: in beauty glorified:

One: no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,

**All: but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

One: Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,

All: absorbed in prayer and praise.

One: His reign shall know no end;

All: and round his pierced feet

**fair flowers of paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.**

One: Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time;

**All: creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.**

One: All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;

**All: thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.**

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Dear God, when we are too eager to jump right into things, and unwilling to take the time to prepare, forgive us. When we are too complacent with things as they are, and too lazy to help because it upsets our comfort, forgive us. Forgive us when we get out of sync with your pace and your rhythm in life. Make us attune to you and your working. Make us aware of your presence in our midst and your prodding in our life. Make us open to your leading and your guidance, that we might walk with you and follow in your way. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: The Lord is a God of mercy and compassion. We know this for certain because of Jesus Christ.

All: In Christ, God seeks the lost and forgives the sinner and loves the world.

One: So let us hear and believe this wonderful, good news.

All: That in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. In Jesus Christ we are loved. 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 READING Acts 1:4-17, 20-26

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Significant Pause” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*The Apostles' Creed*)

**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: God of power and peace,...
People: ...hear our prayer and prepare us as your people.

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*

Dear God, we give you heart-felt thanks for your grace beyond imagining. Accept the gifts that we offer, and make them productive in fulfilling your will. Enhance our gifts with the empowerment of your Holy Spirit. And accept the offer of our lives, that we might be used to fulfill your purposes here on earth. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Open My Eyes, That I May See” GtG 451

One: Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth Thou hast for me.

**All: Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.**

One: Silently now

All: I wait for thee,

One: ready, my God,

All: thy will to see.

One: Open my eyes;

All: illumine me, Spirit divine!

One: Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear.

**All: And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.**

One: Silently now

All: I wait for thee,

One: ready, my God,

All: thy will to see.

One: Open my ears;

All: illumine me, Spirit divine!

One: Open my mouth,

**All: and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere.**

One: Open my heart,

**All: and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.**

One: Silently now

All: I wait for thee,
One: ready, my God,
All: thy will to see.
One: Open my heart;
All: illumine me, Spirit divine!

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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