

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, MAY 9, 2021

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SIXTH SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The love of God urges us on.
All: The love of God calls us together
One: By grace God claims us.
All: With joy we join in the song.
Unison: Come, let us worship the Lord our God.

***OPENING HYMN** “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” GtG 366 *[Tune 761]*

One: Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven,

**All: to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;**

One: all thy faithful mercies crown.

All: Jesus, thou art all compassion;

One: pure, unbounded love thou art;

**All: visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.**

One: Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
into every troubled breast;

**All: let us all in thee inherit;
let us find the promised rest.**

One: Take away the love of sinning;

All: Alpha and Omega be;

One: end of faith,

All: as its beginning,

One: set our hearts at liberty.

One: Come, Almighty to deliver;

All: let us all thy life receive;

One: suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.

All: Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
One: pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
All: glory in thy perfect love.

One: Finish then thy new creation;
All: pure and spotless let us be;
One: let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
All: changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

You call us to newness, O God, but we'd just as soon keep doing things the way we've always done them; don't bother us with suggestions of a different and better way of living. You knock on our door, offering us renewal and life; yet we are more than willing to continue with our ho-hum, hum-drum life. Forgive us for shunning you and your ways. Make us eager to embrace the freshness of your life among us. Help us to welcome your Spirit in our lives. Renew us and revitalize us, that we may be part of your new creation in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(from II Corinthians 5)*

One: "The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all, therefore all have died."
All: "And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them."
One: Because Christ died, we receive forgiveness for our sins.
All: **Because he was raised from the dead, we receive new life in him.**
One: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!"
All: **Let us rejoice in our new creation in Christ!**

***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 READINGS I Samuel 10:6-11 Acts 10:34-48

I SAMUEL 10:6-11 (New Revised Standard Version)

⁶ Then the spirit of the Lord will possess you, and you will be in a prophetic frenzy along with them and be turned into a different person. ⁷ Now when these signs meet you, do whatever you see fit to do, for God is with you. ⁸ And you shall go down to Gilgal ahead of me; then I will come down to you to present burnt offerings and offer sacrifices of well-being. Seven days you shall wait, until I come to you and show you what you shall do.”

⁹ As Saul turned away to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart; and all these signs were fulfilled that day. ¹⁰ When they were going from there to Gibeah, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit of God possessed him, and he fell into a prophetic frenzy along with them. ¹¹ When all who knew him before saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, “What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?”

ACTS 10:34-48 (New Revised Standard Version)

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to God. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ “Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

SERMON “Watch Out!” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

(from A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: O God, in your mercy...
People: ...hear our prayer.

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*

O God, as the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard your word, so fill us as we come before you in response to Christ's gift of love. By your Spirit, enable us to bear the fruit of his life and be a blessing to the world with our faith. Accept our offerings as a sign of your harvest in our lives, and our commitment to labor on behalf of all your children. Through our work, may they come to know your love and life. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" GtG 286

One: Breathe on me, Breath of God;

**All: fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.**

One: Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,

**All: until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.**

One: Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,

**All: until this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.**

One: Breathe on me, Breath of God,

**All: so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

People: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

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