

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 29, 2021

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come to give worship and praise.
All: We come as God's people to be nurtured and rejoice.
One: Come to share in songs and share in prayer.
All: We come to be challenged, to learn, and to grow.
One: Come to be refreshed and renewed by the power of God with us.
All: We come to worship 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.**

(Public Domain)

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(based on Micah 6 & Psalm 51)*

**Mighty and Merciful God,
you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.
We humbly confess our sins and ask your mercy.
We have not loved you with a pure heart,
nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.
We have not done justice, loved kindness,
or walked humbly with you, our God.
Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness.
In your great compassion,
cleans us from our sin.
Create in us a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within us.
Do not cast us from your presence,
or take your Holy Spirit from us.
Restore to us the joy of your salvation
and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.
In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Our God is a God of grace, quick to forgive and ready to recreate in us
pure hearts and willing spirits. So rejoice in the good news; believe it, live
it.

**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 READING II Samuel 11:26-12:13

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “A Story for Us All” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We trust in God,

whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**In sovereign love God created the world good
and makes everyone equally in God's image,
male and female, of every race and people,
to live as one community.**

But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.

**Ignoring God's commandments,
we violate the image of God in others and ourselves,
accept lies as truth,
exploit neighbor and nature,
and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care.
We deserve God's condemnation.**

Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.

In everlasting love,

**the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people
to bless all families of the earth.**

Hearing their cry,

**God delivered the children of Israel
from the house of bondage.**

Loving us still,

**God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home,
God is faithful still.**

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

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

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

Thank you, O God, for the rain which nourishes the earth and the sun which warms it. Thank you for the nourishment of friendships and the warmth of your love. Accept our offerings as the outpouring of our gratitude. May your purposes be served and your will be done through the use of our gifts and the giving of ourselves. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" GtG 475

- 1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unchanging love!**
- 2. Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,**

wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3. **O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

(Public Domain)

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

People: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Prayer of Confession and Prayers of the People are used by permission from *Book of Common Worship*, © 1993 Westminster/John Knox Press.

- - - - -

Pastor Bill will be on Vacation Sunday, September 5th. We recommend you check out the following for online worship opportunities (in lieu of our own in-person worship):

St Mark's Presbyterian Church, Ballwin MO

www.discoverstmark.org

Click on Livestream Worship Services – 10:00 am

Southminster Presbyterian Church, Crestwood MO

www.southminsterstlouis.org

Scroll down to This Week's Service – 10:00 am

John Knox Presbyterian Church, Florissant MO

Worship at 9:30 am - Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/JohnKnoxPresbyterianChurchFlorissantMO/>