

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2021

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Arise, people of faith, that Christ may give us life.

**All: This is the day of meeting in Christ's name.**

One: God is attentive to us and hears our cries.

**All: The word of life is ours to receive.**

One: We will sing praises to God's holy name.

**All: We will tell of God's faithfulness day by day.**

**\*OPENING HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" GtG 39**

One: Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;

**All: there is no shadow of turning with thee.**

One: Thou changest not;

**All: thy compassions they fail not.**

One: As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

One: Great is thy faithfulness!

**All: Great is thy faithfulness!**

One: Morning by morning, new mercies I see.

**All: All I have needed thy hand hath provided.**

**Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

One: Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above

**All: join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.**

One: Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,

**All: thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,**

One: strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:

**All: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!**

One: Great is thy faithfulness!

**All: Great is thy faithfulness!**  
One: Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
**All: All I have needed thy hand hath provided.**  
**Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

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**\*UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Because of your great mercy, O God,  
forgive all the ways we fail to live in faithfulness.  
Trusting you does not always come easy  
when each day we are faced with the ugliness of the world.  
We do not believe that love conquers fear.  
We are not convinced that power comes  
through weakness.  
We cannot conceive how you could heal us.  
Forgive our unbelief, O God,  
and renew our trust in you,  
through the grace and mercy of Christ. Amen.**

**\*SILENT CONFESSION**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Sisters and brothers, hear and proclaim that good news:  
**All: God loves us, forgives us,  
and frees us from our sins;**  
One: therefore be at peace  
and love with boldness and generosity.

**\*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** Mark 5:21-43

**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.**

**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)

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go” GtG 833

One: O Love that wilt not let me go,  
**All: I rest my weary soul in thee;**  
One: I give thee back the life I owe,  
**All: that in thine ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.**

One: O Light that followest all my way,  
**All: I yield my flickering torch to thee;**  
One: my heart restores its borrowed ray,  
**All: that in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
may brighter, fairer be.**

One: O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
**All: I cannot close my heart to thee;**  
One: I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
**All: and feel the promise is not vain  
that morn shall tearless be.**

One: O Cross that liftest up my head,  
**All: I dare not ask to fly from thee;**  
One: I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
**All: and from the ground there blossoms red  
life that shall endless be.**

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## **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*

**Holy God, thank you for giving us a joy for generosity  
and a genuine love for those who are in need.  
Pour out your Spirit upon our gifts and upon our lives  
that together we may bring healing and hope to the world.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## SENDING

**\*CLOSING HYMN** "We Cannot Measure How You Heal" GtG 797

- 1. We cannot measure how you heal  
or answer every sufferer's prayer,  
yet we believe your grace responds  
where faith and doubt unite to care.  
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,  
survive to hold and heal and warn,  
to carry all through death to life  
and cradle children yet unborn.**
- 2. The pain that will not go away,  
the guilt that clings from things long past,  
the fear of what the future holds,  
are present as if meant to last.  
But present too is love which tends  
the hurt we never hoped to find,  
the private agonies inside,  
the memories that haunt the mind.**

**3. So some have come who need your help  
and some have come to make amends,  
as hands which shaped and saved the world  
are present in the touch of friends.  
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here  
to mend the body, mind, and soul,  
to disentangle peace from pain,  
and make your broken people whole.**

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**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

**People:** ...Amen.

**POSTLUDE**

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