

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2021

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come one and all to meet God here.
All: We have come that God might raise us up.
One: God hears our prayers and answers us.
All: God equips us to be helpful to one another.
One: God's presence and help are real.
All: So we come together to sing songs of praise to God.
One: Give thanks for God's wondrous deeds.
All: God's glory abides in this place of worship.

***OPENING HYMN** "God, You Spin the Whirling Planets" GtG 23

One: God, you spin the whirling planets,
All: fill the seas and spread the plain,
One: mold the mountains,
All: fashion blossoms,
One: call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.
All: We, created in your image,
would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace, and mercy
and the truth that makes us free.

One: You have called us to be faithful
in our life and ministry.
All: We respond in grateful worship
joined in one community.
One: When we blur your gracious image,
All: focus us and make us whole.
One: Healed and strengthened as your people,
All: we move onward toward your goal.

One: God, your word is still creating,
calling us to life made new.

All: Now reveal to us fresh vistas
where there's work to dare and do.
One: Keep us clear of all distortion.
Polish us with loving care.
All: Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.

Used by permission through CCLI License #11178434 / #2457662.

***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God, our strength and savior,
you know our great transgressions,
our hidden faults, our secret sins.
We desire what we do not need
and corrupt our relationships with envy.
You urge us to gentleness,
but we stir up conflict.
With our hands we grasp at power;
with our feet we stumble into evil;
with our eyes we look out for ourselves.
Deal with us not as we deserve, gracious God,
but forgive us, cleanse us,
and teach us your holy way
of life and love and peace;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: The prayer of the psalmist is our prayer: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."
All: **"Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit."**
One: The good news that the psalmist proclaims and that we know in Jesus Christ is that our God is a God of grace, quick to forgive and ready to recreate in us a heart of service and a spirit of faithfulness.
So let us hear and believe that good news once again.
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 Mark 9:30-50

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Pastor Bill Vincent

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**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.**

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Merciful God...

People: ...touch us with your love and guide us with your light.

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*

**We thank you for the wealth you shower on us daily, O Lord,
and we witness the marvelous goodness that comes from you.
May our gifts and offerings
be a sign of your goodness and grace,
and a sign of welcome
for all who are touched by their use.
Transform us into people who mirror your goodness
and bless others throughout each day;
in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee" GtG 738

- 1. O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**
- 2. Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.**
- 3. Teach me thy patience, still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong.**
- 4. In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.**

(Public Domain)

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

People: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship is reprinted by permission of United Church Press from *Led by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1996 by United Church Press.

The Prayer of Confession, Prayers of the People (adapted), and Prayer of Dedication are used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2015.

- - - - -

Pastor Bill will be on Vacation next Sunday, September 26th (finally moving to the new house!). Please 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 B 10:00 am

Southminster Presbyterian Church, Crestwood MO

www.southminsterstlouis.org

Scroll down to This Week=s Service B 10:00 am

John Knox Presbyterian Church, Florissant MO

Worship at 9:30 am - Facebook page:

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