

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2021

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Taste and see how good God is.
All: Trust in the One who awakens joy in place of tears.
One: Happy are those who take refuge in a loving God.
All: The Lord has done great things for us,
One: O magnify the Lord with me,
All: Let us exalt God's name together!

***OPENING HYMN** "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me" GtG 703

One: Jesus, thy boundless love to me
no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
All: O knit my thankful heart to thee,
and reign without a rival there!
One: Thine wholly, thine alone, I'd live;
All: myself to thee entirely give.

One: O grant that nothing in my soul
may dwell,
All: but thy pure love alone;
One: O may thy love possess me whole,
All: my joy, my treasure, and my crown!
One: All coldness from my heart remove;
All: may every act, word, thought be love.

One: O Love, how gracious is thy way!
All: All fear before thy presence flies;
One: Care, anguish, sorrow melt away
where'er thy healing beams arise.
All: O Jesus, nothing may I see,
nothing desire, or seek, but thee.

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,
you know us better than we know ourselves.
You see our need when we are blind to it.
In your compassion,
forgive us for our lack of faith
and the harm we do to others and to your earth.
Forgive us for turning away from your will,
for ignoring the cries of our neighbors,
for failing to listen to what is most nourishing even for ourselves.
Forgive us,
and give us the light of your wisdom and ways,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: The one who created us and maintains our every breath has reached out to us in love.
All: **The Lord hears our cries and our confession, and, calls us to receive mercy and be forgiven.**
One: Therefore, let us be reconciled to one another and walk humbly before God.

***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 10:46-52

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.**

**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.**

**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)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: God of mercy...
People: ...hear our prayer.

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*

God of goodness, you lavish your gifts on us. You have given us health; we dedicate our vigor to following Christ. You have given us strength; we offer our energy to serve neighbors in need. You have given us your Word; we commit a portion of our wealth as signs of our faithfulness. Bless our offerings with the healing that comes from your work and your work that comes from our hands. For the glory of your kingdom we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Sight and Hearing" [*Tune #761*]

**Sight and hearing Jesus offers
Those who seek and call today.
There is welcome for each beggar,
Searching for life's better way.
We can all take heart, rejoicing,
Knowing we are called by name.
We are touched and healed so deeply
We can never be the same.**

**Faith that we received from others
Only can become our own
When we reach for understanding,
Offered us by God alone.
In our struggles to be faithful,
Through our days of toil and stress,
God is with us as a refuge,
Promising to hear and bless.**

**Let the humble sing their praises
With a radiant confidence,
Serving in the name of Jesus,
With no arrogant pretense.
Magnify God's name together;
Taste and see that God is good.
Celebrating Christ's perfection,
Live today as Jesus would.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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