

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

THIRD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, people of God, to the one in whom we trust.
All: Praise God who delivers and rescues us.
One: Hope in God, who has created you.
**All: God accepts us, even when people do not.
God affirms us, even when we fail.**
One: God's Word of love is ours to proclaim.
All: We are here to worship the God who empowers us.

***OPENING HYMN** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" GtG 435

One: There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
**All: There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.**
One: There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
**All: There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.**

One: For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
**All: And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.**
One: If our love were but more faithful,
**All: we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.**

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Merciful God,
we confess that we are fickle followers of your way.
We praise you when your words comfort us
and deny that your good news means
we need to sacrifice something.
We grow comfortable with the way things are,
passively condoning injustice.
We see ourselves as “insiders,”
excluding those we consider “outsiders.”
We find it easier to pluck up and pull down,
to destroy and overthrow,
than to build and to plant.
Forgive us, O God,
for being wayward and fleeting disciples.
Focus us on you,
and fill us with your love
that is humble and patient and kind.
We pray this in the name of the One
who humbled himself,
Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: God has loved us since the beginning,
and God’s love for us will never end.
Do not fear, therefore,
but have faith in God’s steadfast love,
God’s healing power,
and God’s ability to make all things new.

All: **For by the grace of Christ, God forgives us in love,
and calls us to abide in faith, in hope, and in love.
Thanks be to 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 Luke 4:14-30

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Ruffled Feathers” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “Live into Hope” GtG 772

1. **Live into hope of captives freed,
of sight regained, the end of greed.
The oppressed shall be the first to see
the year of God's own jubilee!**
2. **Live into hope! The blind shall see
with insight and with clarity,
removing shades of pride and fear,
a vision of our God brought near.**
3. **Live into hope of liberty,
the right to speak, the right to be,
the right to have one's daily bread,
to hear God's word and thus be fed.**
4. **Live into hope of captives freed
from chains of fear or want or greed.
God now proclaims our full release
to faith and hope and joy and peace.**

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***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.**

**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: Merciful God...
People: ...be our strength and our hope.

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*

**With awe and wonder before you, O God, we dare to enlist all our
efforts toward the realization of your realm. Bless these gifts that we offer
that they may further your reign in this world. In all we do, we will seek to
serve you by sharing your love. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" StF 2241

**1. The Spirit sends us forth to serve;
we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor,**

God's favor to proclaim.

**2. We go to comfort those who mourn
and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream
and help the blind to see.**

**3. We go to be the hands of Christ,
to scatter joy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life,
to do the loving deed.**

**4. Then let us go to serve in peace,
the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us;
we go in Jesus' name.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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