

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2022

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

FIFTH SUNDAY of EASTER

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord reigns!
All: **The victory belongs to God!**
One: The cross of Christ proclaims the depths of God's love.
All: **The empty tomb announces God's power, even over death.**
One: So rejoice, give thanks, and sing. For he has risen!
All: **He has risen indeed!**

***OPENING HYMN** "Christ Is Alive!" GtG 246 (*Verses 1, 2, 4, & 5*)

1. **Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

2. **Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

4. **Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

5. **Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

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***UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Even as we sing of your victory, O God, our lives bear poor witness. Our relationships are fractured. Our lives are fragmented. Our goals are short-sighted. Our commitments are self-serving. Have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us. By your grace, reclaim us. In your faithfulness, renew us. Through the work of your Spirit, restore us to faith and hope. For the sake of your Son, lead us in the way of love and life. For it is in his name that we pray. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(based on II Corinthians 5)*

One: God is among us making all things new.

All: We are a part of God's transformed creation.

One: Know God's forgiveness. Rise with Christ to a life made new. Amen.

**All: In gratitude and thanksgiving, we claim this grace
and commit to new life in Christ.**

***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 Acts 9:36-42

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "Speaking Tabitha's Language" by Pastor Bill Vincent

***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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***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.**

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Pastor: God of resurrection...
People: ...help us to see your life and share your life.**

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*

We offer ourselves to you, O God, in response to your offering of yourself to us in Jesus Christ. Accept our gifts as we joyfully give thanks for our life in you. Use our offering to further your will for the good of the world sharing the grace of your resurrection power. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples” GtG 757 (*Verses 1, 3, & 4*)

- 1. Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make plowshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.**
- 3. Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.**
- 4. May we in service to our God
act out the living word,
and walk the road the saints have trod**

**till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
Give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

***RESPONSE** “May the God of Hope Go with Us” GtG 765

- 1. May the God of hope go with us every day,
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.
May the God of justice speed us on our way,
bringing light and hope to every land and race.
Praying, let us work for peace;
singing, share our joy with all;
working for a world that's new,
faithful when we hear Christ's call.**

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POSTLUDE

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