

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

**26<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Call to mind the mighty acts of God.  
Remember the wonders God has revealed in your life.  
**All: Let us praise God not only with our lips, but with our lives as well.**  
One: We have come to be equipped for our tasks.  
We have gathered for renewal of our lives.  
**All: Come, let us worship God, the giver of new life.**

**\*OPENING HYMN “O God in Whom All Life Begins” GtG 308**

**1. O God in whom all life begins,  
who births the seed to fruit,  
bestow your blessing on our lives;  
here let your love find root.  
Bring forth in us the Spirit’s gifts  
of patience, joy, and peace;  
deliver us from numbing fear,  
and grant our faith increase.**

**2. Unite in mutual ministry  
our minds and hands and hearts  
that we may have the grace to seek  
the power your peace imparts.  
So let our varied gifts combine  
to glorify your Name  
that in all things by word and deed  
we may your love proclaim.**

**3. Through tears and laughter, grief and joy,  
enlarge our trust and care;  
so bind us in community  
that we may risk and dare.  
Be with us when we gather here**

to worship, sing, and pray;  
then send us forth in power and faith  
to live the words we say.

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## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,  
we confess that we have not always been your faithful servants.  
Sometimes we find it difficult to love as Jesus taught us.  
We have been quick to judge others  
while at the same time we overlook our own faults and shortcomings.  
You ask us to help ease the burdens others carry,  
but we add to them.  
We bolster our own egos at others' expense.  
We consume other people instead of loving them.  
Forgive us, gracious God,  
and renew us with your peace and with your mercy.  
Free us from the destruction of sin  
and restore us to a life lived in you.  
Help us love our neighbors as ourselves;  
in the name of life abundant, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## SILENT CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Peace!  
Peace is what you receive from God  
when you know that your sins are forgiven.  
Peace is what you have when you know  
that the destruction of sin cannot harm you,  
because you are not alone in your journey of life.

All: **The crucified Christ has set us free  
to live in the Spirit of life  
and to be made new.**

One: Therefore, peace, my sisters and brothers!  
In Jesus we have received forgiveness,  
and we have been restored!

All: **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 READINGS** Galatians 5 & 6 (selected verses)

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SERMON** “. After the Period” by Pastor Bill Vincent

**\*HYMN** “Holy Spirit, Truth Divine” [*tune: GtG 697*]

1. **Holy Spirit, truth divine,  
Dawn upon this soul of mine;  
Word of God, and inward light,  
Wake my spirit, clear my sight.**
2. **Holy Spirit, love divine,  
Glow within this heart of mine;  
Kindle every high desire;  
Perish self in Thy pure fire.**
3. **Holy Spirit, power divine,  
Fill and nerve this will of mine;  
By Thee may I strongly live,  
Bravely bear, and nobly strive.**
4. **Holy Spirit, right divine,  
Make my conscience wholly Thine;  
Be my law, and I shall be  
Firmly bound, forever free.**

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**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers  
in the one body of Christ, the Church.  
The same Spirit  
who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,**

**engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.**

**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**

**One:** Hear us, O God...  
**All:** ...your mercy is great.

## **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 our maker, our Savior, our source of life,**

**we thank you for your self-giving love.  
As we give of ourselves,  
receive our gifts, multiplying them and using them  
as signs of your love and faithfulness,  
and of your creative hand at work among us.  
We give ourselves to you  
and commit ourselves  
to follow Jesus Christ,  
love our neighbors,  
and share the fruits of the Spirit,  
giving you thanks and praise,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** “Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing” GtG 546 (*Verses 1-2*)

- 1. Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us,  
O refresh us,  
traveling through this wilderness.**
- 2. Thanks we give and adoration  
for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful,  
ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.**

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### **\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**One:** ...And let the gathered people of God say...  
**All:** ...Amen.

### **POSTLUDE**

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