

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

CHRIST the KING SUNDAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Isaiah 12)*

One: "Sing praises to the Lord, who has done gloriously.
Let this be known in all the earth."
**All: If the seas join in praise, how much more should we.
If hills are alive with song, let us, too, awake to sing.**
One: "Surely God is our salvation.
We will trust, and will not be afraid."
**All: Shout aloud and sing for joy,
in the midst of our joys and our sorrows.**
One: "For the Lord God is our strength and our might."
**All: May we remember together,
today and every day,
that you, O God, have done marvelous things.**

***OPENING HYMN** "Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above" GtG 645

- 1. Sing praise to God, who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!**
- 2. What God's almighty power hath made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!**
- 3. The Lord is never far away,**

but, through all grief distressing,
an ever present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

4. Thus all my toilsome way along
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear God, we need your grace and mercy, for we have fallen by the wayside and strayed from your path. You have demonstrated your trustworthiness, yet still we are fearful of life. Your love has touched us, yet our hearts are still cold toward others. Forgive us, gracious God. Deal tenderly with us in your mercy. By the power of your Spirit, transform us in the image of your Son that we might be your people to your glory. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Hear the good news:
Christ is merciful to all who turn to him in repentance.
All: **In the name of Jesus Christ,
we are forgiven.**

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 Isaiah 65:17-25
Luke 21:5-19
II Thessalonians 3:6-13

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Yearning for Joy, Experiencing Turmoil” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “Lead On, O King Eternal!” GtG 269

1. **Lead on, O King eternal!**
The day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
your tents shall be our home.
Through days of preparation
your grace has made us strong,
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.

2. **Lead on, O King eternal,**
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords' loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums;
with deeds of love and mercy
the heavenly kingdom comes.

3. **Lead on, O King eternal:**
we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er your face appears;
your cross is lifted o'er us;
we journey in its light.
The crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might!

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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)

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: God of grace...
All: ...grant us your mercy and your strength.

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*

Loving God,
before we give to you, you have given to us.
All we offer we have received from you.
We thank you for your goodness,
and we praise you for your bountiful works,

Use these gifts, and us,
to share your abundance and spread your love;
through Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Go to the World!” GtG 295

1. **Go to the world!**
Go into all the earth.
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,
baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

2. **Go to the world!**
Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

3. **Go to the world!**
Go struggle, bless, and pray;
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

4. **Go to the world!**
Go as the ones I send,
for I am with you till the age shall end,
when all the hosts of glory cry “Amen!”
Alleluia. Alleluia.

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

***RESPONSE** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

**I'm gonna live so
God can use me anywhere,**

**Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so
God can use me anywhere,
Lord, anytime!**

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POSTLUDE

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