

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 2023

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

SECOND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God sends light to us this day
All: **and invites us to meet one another in this light.**
One: Let us humble ourselves for the worship of God,
All: **that we may be empowered to serve.**
One: God makes us to be the salt of the earth
All: **and lights to show God's works to the world.**

***OPENING HYMN** "Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness" GtG 314
(Christ, Be Our Light)

**1. Longing for light,
we wait in darkness.
Longing for truth,
we turn to you.
Make us your own,
your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

Refrain:

**Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.**

**2. Longing for peace,
our world is troubled.
Longing for hope,
many despair.
Your word alone
has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.**

Refrain:

**3. Longing for food,
many are hungry.
Longing for water,
many still thirst.
Make us your bread,
broken for others,
shared until all are fed.**

Refrain:

**4. Longing for shelter,
many are homeless.
Longing for warmth,
many are cold.
Make us your building,
sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.**

Refrain:

**5. Many the gifts,
many the people,
many the hearts
that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants
to one another,
making your kingdom come.**

Refrain:

*Christ, Be Our Light, Text and Tune by Bernadette Farrell.
Copyright 1993, Bernadette Farrell, Published by OCP, All rights reserved.
Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-
739819. All rights reserved.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**You are the light of the world, O Lord,
yet we do not reflect that light.
You have called us salt,
but our lives are bland and inspire no one.
You give wisdom and the means for discerning your will;
yet we are aimless and prisoners of the whims of others.
You call us to build a more just society
but we cling to our advantages.
We have put our own pleasure ahead of your purposes.
We have been more inclined to feed our own egos
than to give bread to the hungry.
Forgive us, O Lord.**

**Set us right and renew us by your Spirit.
Give us integrity of heart,
that we may shine forth the light of your salvation,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God, who knows our thoughts,
All: answers our cries and rescues us from darkness.
One: God, who understands our motives,
All: reaches out to heal us and make us righteous.
One: God, who is with us in our weakness,
All: grants strength and power to live as salt and light.
One: Hear the good news of the gospel: God will not withhold mercy from us.
The steadfast love and faithfulness of the Lord is with us, now and
forever.
All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! 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 Matthew 5:13-20

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** "Bring Forth the Kingdom" StF 2190 *(Verses 1-3)*

1. *Leader:* You are salt for the earth, O people:
All: Salt for the Kingdom of God!
Leader: Share the flavor of life, O people:
All: Life in the Kingdom of God!

Refrain:

**Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy,
bring forth the Kingdom of peace;
bring forth the Kingdom of justice,
bring forth the City of God!**

2. *Leader:* You are a light on the hill, O people:

All: Light for the City of God!

Leader: Shine so holy and bright, O people:

All: Shine for the Kingdom of God!

Refrain:

3. *Leader:* You are a seed of the Word, O people:

All: Bring forth the Kingdom of God!

Leader: Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice,

All: grow in the Kingdom of God!

Refrain:

*Bring Forth the Kingdom, Text and Tune by Marty Haugen.
Copyright 1986, GIA Publications, Inc., All rights reserved.
Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE
LICENSE #A-739819. All rights reserved.*

***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)

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

- One: "There are varieties of gifts."
All: **"But it is the same Spirit who gives them."**
One: "There are varieties of service."
All: **"But it is the same Lord who is served."**
One: "There are varieties of working."
All: **"But it is the same God who inspires them all in every one."**
One: "Each one is given a gift by the Spirit..."
All: **"...To use it for the common good."**
One: "Together we are the body of Christ..."
All: **"...And individually members of him."**

(from I Corinthians 12)

Constitutional Questions to Officers

Constitutional Questions to the Congregation

Do we, the members of the church, accept these people as ruling elders, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

The Laying On of Hands

Prayer

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

- One: Lord, in your mercy...
All: **...hear our prayer.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Contemporary)*

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERING

Invitation

Reflection

**Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Generous God, we offer our gifts in gratitude for all we have received.
Use them to strengthen the ministry of your church to meet the needs of your
children. May our offerings bear witness to your love made known to us in
Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining” GtG 192
(Shine, Jesus, Shine)

**1. Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me; shine on me.**

Refrain:

**Shine, Jesus, shine;
fill this land with the Father’s glory.
Blaze, Spirit, blaze;
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow;
flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.**

**2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness.
Search me; try me; consume all my darkness.
Shine on me; shine on me.**

Refrain:

**3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness;
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.
Shine on me; shine on me.**

Refrain:

Used by permission through CCLI License #11178434.

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

All: ...Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Assurance of Pardon are reprinted, with permission, from *Fresh Winds of the Spirit, Book 2* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1992 by The Pilgrim Press.

The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission of United Church Press from *Taught by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1998 by United Church Press.

The Prayer of Confession is used by permission from *When We Gather Year A* by James G. Kirk. Copyright 1983 The Geneva Press.

The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013/2014.

The Assurance of Pardon, Prayers of the People (adapted), and Prayer of Dedication are written by Stephanie Sorge and used by permission. © Presbyterian Outlook, 2023.