

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 29, 2023

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

FOURTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We approach God in reverence and wonder,
rejoicing in the invitation to holy places.

All: We seek the One who grants us life,

One: Take time to still your hearts.

All: We have left important pursuits to gather here.

One: All that was on your mind as you entered does not matter now. Come to
this quiet place, come to your Heavenly Father who is waiting for you.
Come.

All: We come to offer ourselves in worship to the Lord our God.

***OPENING HYMN** “Come and Find the Quiet Center” StF 2128 [*Tune: GtG 716*]

**1. Come and find the quiet center
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**

**2. Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,
God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, touches base,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.**

**3. In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,**

let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
There's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare.

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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we come seeking your presence and assurance;
yet we know we have not heeded your ways.
We have amassed treasures that are transitory.
We seek acclaim that is temporary.
We hoard your gifts for ourselves
and turn away those in deep need we could help.
We have withheld what is not our own.
We have judged where it was not our place.
We have sinned by what we have done
and what we have failed to do.
Forgive us, gracious, merciful God.
Cleanse us and guide us.
And strengthen us
that we may follow in the way you would have us go.
For me make this and all our prayers
in reliance upon our faithful savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(from Psalm 51)*

One: The prayer of the psalmist is our prayer: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me."
All: **"Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit."**
One: The good news that the psalmist proclaims and that we know in Jesus Christ is that our God is a God of grace, quick to forgive and ready to recreate in us a heart of faithfulness and a spirit of trust.
One: So let us hear and believe that good news once again.
All: **For by the grace of God we are loved and accepted, forgiven and restored through Jesus Christ our Lord. Alleluia! Amen.**

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 6:1-6,16-24

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** "Be Thou My Vision" GtG 450 (*Verses 1, 3, & 4*)

**1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**3. Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**4. High King of Heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

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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 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!"**

**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

One: In your mercy...
All: ...Lord, 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*

**For blessing us with the opportunity to give, we pour out our thanks,
O God. For your steadfast love and mercy, we are most grateful. For
drawing us closer to you, we bow in humble praise. Now we dedicate to you
our offering of gratitude, not to be praised by others, but to be used
according to your purposes. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart" GtG 688 (*Verses 1, 3, & 5*)

- 1. Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth; through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.**
- 3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King;
all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?
I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling.**

O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

- 5. Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

All: ...**Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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