

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2023

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

**FOURTH SUNDAY of EASTER**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Psalm 148)*

One: Kings of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the earth!

**All: Young men and women alike,  
old and young together!**

One: Let them praise the name of the Lord,  
for his name alone is exalted;

**All: his glory is above earth and heaven.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** “Crown Him with Many Crowns” GtG 268

1. **Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.**

2. **Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.**

3. **Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a scepter sways**

*(continued...)*

from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end;  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.

4. Crown him the Lord of years,  
the potentate of time;  
creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

Words: Matthew Bridges, 1851. *Public Domain*.

Music: DIADEMATA, George Job Elvey, 1868. *Public Domain*.

#### UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord, we sing your praises, but fail to follow. We want you to watch over us, but we don't want to heed your wisdom. We want you to provide for our lives, but not to pry into our lives. Forgive us, gracious Lord, when we use you and fail to worship you. Turn our hearts to you. Turn our wills to your path. Transform our lives as obedient children, following the Risen Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

#### SILENT CONFESSION

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Christ bore our sins that we might die to sin and live in righteousness.  
All: **In ways we cannot fathom, Christ's wounds have extended healing to us.**  
One: Let us live as whole people, forgiven and forgiving...  
All: **...rising with Christ to a life made new.**

#### 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

Psalm 23

One: The Lord is my shepherd;

**All: I shall not be in want.**

One: You make me lie down in green pastures

**All: and lead me beside still waters.**

One: You revive my soul

**All: and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.**

One: Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

**All: I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

One: You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me;

**All: you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.**

One: Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

**All: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.**

Today's translation of Psalm 23 is reprinted by permission from *Book of Common Worship*, © 1993 Westminster/John Knox Press.

Revelation 7:9-17

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "A Package Deal" by Pastor Bill Vincent

\*HYMN "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us" GtG 187

1. **Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us;  
for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us: we are yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us: we are yours.**
2. **We are yours: in love befriend us;  
be the guardian of our way.  
Keep your flock: from sin defend us;  
seek us when we go astray.**

*(continued...)*

**Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear your children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear your children when we pray.**

**3. You have promised to receive us,  
poor and sinful though we be;  
you have mercy to relieve us,  
grace to cleanse, and power to free.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
early let us turn to you.**

**4. Early let us seek your favor;  
early let us do your will.  
Blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with your love our spirits fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us; love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have loved us; love us still.**

Words: Thrupp's *Hymns for the Young*, 1836, alt. *Public Domain*.

Music: BRADBURY, William Batchelder Bradbury, 1859, alt. *Public Domain*.

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**     *(The Apostles' Creed)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Today's translation of the Apostles' Creed is reprinted by permission from *Book of Common Worship*, © 1993 Westminster/John Knox Press.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: In your great love for us...  
All: ...hear our prayer.

## 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*

Dear God, we thank you for your sustaining power in our lives. You urge us on and provide for us in life. Teach us the way of thankfulness. We offer these gifts, and our lives, as we acknowledge your gifts to us and respond with gratitude. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

## SENDING

\*CLOSING HYMN "He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!"

1. He leadeth me: O blessed thought!  
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.  
*Refrain:* He leadeth me, he leadeth me;  
by his own hand he leadeth me:  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

*(continued...)*

2. Sometimes `mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom,  
by waters calm, o'er troubled sea,  
still `tis God's hand that leadeth me.

*Refrain:* He leadeth me, he leadeth me;  
by his own hand he leadeth me:  
his faithful follower I would be,  
for by his hand he leadeth me.

3. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine;  
content, whatever lot I see,  
since `tis my God that leadeth me. *Refrain:*

4. And when my task on earth is done,  
when, by thy grace, the victory's won,  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
since God through Jordan leadeth me. *Refrain:*

Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862. *Public Domain.*

Music: HE LEADETH ME, William B. Bradbury, 1864. *Public Domain.*

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

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

All: ...Amen.

#### **\*RESPONSE** "God Be with You Till We Meet Again" GtG 541 (*Verse 1*)

1. God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

Words: Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, alt. *Public Domain.*

Music: RANDOLPH, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906. *Public Domain.*

#### **POSTLUDE**

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