

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 2023

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

10th SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Hosea 6)*

One: Return to the One Holy God who calls you to steadfast love.
All: **The Lord desires love, not sacrifice.**
One: Return to the One who heals and binds, revives and raises up.
All: **The Lord desires knowledge, not burnt offerings.**
One: Rejoice in the name of the One who favors all creation with light and life.
All: **Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN** “O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” GtG 610 *(Verses 1-4)*

1. **O for a thousand tongues to sing
my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace!**
2. **The name of Jesus charms our fears,
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life, and health, and peace.**
3. **Christ speaks, and listening to his voice
new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice;
the poor in heart believe.**
4. **My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.**

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Music: Carl Gotthelf Glaser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839. *Public Domain.*

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
your word and your promises come to us
when our hearts are full with rejoicing
and when our hearts fall with sorrow for our failings.
Promises we make we too easily break.
The gifts you have given us
we have not shared with our neighbors.
By overt acts and by omission,
we do not honor your desire for Earth
and all her creatures.
We beg your mercy.
Forgive us, gracious and merciful God.
Forgive the pain and brokenness we cause by our own faithlessness.
Help us to amend our lives
in accord with your admonitions.
Show us the pathway toward healing
and give us peace,
in the name of Christ, our Savior. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God has poured out love upon us.
All: **We are made well and whole, not because of ourselves, but through the grace of God!**
One: In the name of the God who raised Jesus from the dead, your sins are forgiven.
All: **Let us walk in the way of faith, for we can now live in peace!**

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 9:9-13,18-26

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “The Doctor Is Always In” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN “We Come to You for Healing, Lord” GtG 796**

- 1. We come to you for healing, Lord,
of body, mind, and soul,
and pray that by your Spirit’s touch
we may again be whole.**
- 2. As once you walked through ancient streets
and reached toward those in pain,
we know you come among us still
with power to heal again.**
- 3. You touch us through physicians’ skills,
through nurses’ gifts of care,
and through the love of faithful friends
who lift our lives in prayer.**
- 4. Through nights of pain and wakefulness,
through days when strength runs low,
grant us your gift of patience, Lord,
your calming peace to know.**
- 5. We come to you, O loving Lord,
in our distress and pain,
in trust that through our nights and days
your grace will heal, sustain.**

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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.**

(continued...)

**We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.
Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.
Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.
God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**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: Hear our prayer this day...
All: ...God of wholeness and grace.**

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*

**For the love and joy and wholeness you offer to us,
we give you thanks, O God.
Teach us the blessedness of our lives
and the grace of knowing you.
Fill our hearts with thanksgiving
that our lives might reflect our gratitude.
Through our offerings
may we be channels of your compassion and healing to others,
for the sake of Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “We Cannot Measure How You Heal” GtG 797

**1. We cannot measure how you heal
or answer every sufferer’s prayer,
yet we believe your grace responds
where faith and doubt unite to care.
Your hands, though bloodied on the cross,
survive to hold and heal and warn,
to carry all through death to life
and cradle children yet unborn.**

**2. The pain that will not go away,
the guilt that clings from things long past,
the fear of what the future holds,
are present as if meant to last.
But present too is love which tends
the hurt we never hoped to find,
the private agonies inside,
the memories that haunt the mind.**

(continued...)

**3. So some have come who need your help
and some have come to make amends,
as hands which shaped and saved the world
are present in the touch of friends.
Lord, let your Spirit meet us here
to mend the body, mind, and soul,
to disentangle peace from pain,
and make your broken people whole.**

Text by John L. Bell and Graham Maule.

Music: Scottish melody. Tune arrangement by John L. Bell.

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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