

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2023

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

**WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Come, O people of God, to give thanks and sing.  
All: **We come to celebrate the goodness of God.**  
One: Come, O people of God, to be refreshed and filled.  
All: **We come to entreat the compassion of God.**  
One: Come, O people of God, to search and wonder.  
All: **We come to encounter the mystery of God.**  
Unison: **Come, and with heart, mind, and soul, let us worship the Lord our God.**

**\*OPENING HYMN** “Creator of Mountains” StF 2061 (*Verses 1-3 & 5*)

1. Creator of mountains, of glaciers and streams,  
Great Splasher of fountains and Dreamer of dreams,  
we gather in wonder and praise for your grace.  
Responding, we ponder our work in this place.

2. Creator of peoples and races and tribes,  
not bound by church steeples or what myth describes,  
we celebrate now our diversity here,  
in penitence vow to accept and not fear.

3. Created for caring for all human need,  
we seek to be daring in thought and in deed.  
Turn us from all strife that demeans or divides.  
Reform us for life that empow’rs and abides.

5. Great God, now we come, our hearts grateful for days  
when faith, like a drum-beat, keeps steady our praise.  
In song and rejoicing hopes stir and arise,  
our spirits now voicing their hymns to the skies.

*(next page...)*

*Creator of Mountains, Text by Jane Parker Huber.  
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## **UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, creator of all things, humbly we confess to you.  
We turn others away even as we celebrate your love for us.  
We build walls that divide rather than bridges that connect.  
We call attention to our differences rather than highlight what we have in common.  
Forgive us, all-embracing God.  
Help us to see you in others.  
Help us to perceive your call to all.  
Help us to share your love with all people, even as we know your love for us.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## **SILENT CONFESSION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**One:** God does love us. We know this for certain because of Jesus Christ.  
**All:** **In Christ, God seeks the lost and forgives the sinner and loves the world.**  
**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 READINGS** Psalm 19  
Romans 14:1-6

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SERMON** “Singing the Whole Song” by Pastor Bill Vincent

**\*HYMN “Help Us Accept Each Other” GtG 754**

- 1. Help us accept each other  
as Christ accepted us;  
teach us as sister, brother,  
each person to embrace.  
Be present, Lord, among us  
and bring us to believe  
we are ourselves accepted,  
and meant to love and live.**
- 2. Teach us, O Lord, your lessons,  
as in our daily life  
we struggle to be human  
and search for hope and faith.  
Teach us to care for people,  
for all, not just for some,  
to love them as we find them  
or as they may become.**
- 3. Let your acceptance change us,  
so that we may be moved  
in living situations  
to do the truth in love;  
to practice your acceptance  
until we know by heart  
the table of forgiveness,  
and laughter's healing art.**
- 4. Lord, for today's encounters  
with all who are in need,  
who hunger for acceptance,  
for justice and for bread,  
we need new eyes for seeing,  
new hands for holding on:  
renew us with your Spirit;  
Lord, free us; make us one!**

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Music: BARONITA, Doreen Potter, 1974

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**\*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.**

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**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**One:** Savior God...  
**All:** ...hear our prayer.

**THE EUCHARIST**

**OFFERING**

*Invitation*

*Reflection* "We Are One, Lord" Joint Choir

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*\*Unison Prayer of Dedication*

**Thank you, O God, for the goodness of life in all its varied forms. We offer you ourselves, heart, mind, and soul, in gratitude for all you have given us and all you have done for us. May our offerings remind us of our commitment to you and your life. Use them, and us, to share your love and embrace your world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Invitation to the Lord's Table*

*Prayer of Thanksgiving*

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Lift up your hearts.  
**People: We lift them to the Lord.**  
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*(The prayer continues...)*

*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.**

*Breaking of the Bread*

*Communion of the People*

(Please hold each of the elements so that we might partake of them together,  
reflecting our unity in Christ.)

**Sing** "One Bread, One Body" GtG 530

*(next page...)*

Refrain:

**One bread, one body,  
one Lord of all,  
one cup of blessing which we bless.  
And we, though many,  
throughout the earth,  
we are one body in this one Lord.**

- 1. Gentile or Jew,  
servant or free,  
woman or man, no more.**

*Refrain*

- 2. Many the gifts,  
many the works,  
one in the Lord of all.**

*Refrain*

- 3. Grain for the fields,  
scattered and grown,  
gathered to one, for all.**

*Refrain*

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*Prayer*

### **SENDING**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** “Welcoming God” [Tune 839]

**1. Children are welcome, Christ said one day,  
When the disciples just urged them away.  
Children are welcome at Jesus’ knee:  
God’s own examples for ministry.**

*(continued...)*

**Welcoming God, you open the Way;  
Even the smallest worship and pray,  
Singing with faith and serving you well,  
Your life to know and good news to tell.**

**2. Women are welcome, as are the men;  
Through God's own Spirit, we're partners again.  
Partners as prophets, ministers, too:  
No more divided – made one in you.  
Welcoming God, you open the way;  
Those once divided join now to pray,  
Serving at Table, preaching your Word,  
So that your love for all will be heard.**

**3. Outcasts are welcome; sinners are, too,  
Eating with Jesus and being made new:  
Some like Zacchaeus turned right around;  
Wounded and poor ones felt peace profound.  
God of great love, you stand at the door,  
Welcoming people outcast and poor.  
So you forgive and call us to be  
Filled with the joy of your jubilee.**

**4. So may we welcome into our pew  
All who in Jesus are being made new –  
All those who seek him, wanting to know,  
Wanting to love him, wanting to grow.  
Welcoming God, you stand at our door,  
As someone different, outcast or poor.  
With longing eyes, Lord Jesus, you search.  
May we all welcome you in your church.**

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**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

## POSTLUDE

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### **This week:**

Tuesday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>

Pacific Session meeting – 1:00 pm

Union Session meeting – 7:00 pm

Pastor Bill will be on Study Leave and Vacation October 6<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>.

Rev. Kurt Calkins will preach for worship next Sunday, October 8<sup>th</sup>.

Rev. Jay Summerville will preach for worship on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>.