

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2023

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling place;
All: we come today to rest in you.
One: You have been the voice that guides us;
All: we come today to listen.
One: You have been the host who feeds us;
All: we come today to be filled.
One: You have been our joy and crown;
All: we come today to sing your praise!

***OPENING HYMN** “We Praise You, O God” GtG 612

**1. We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.**

**We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

**2. We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.**

**When perils o’ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

**3. With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.**

**With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!**

Words: Julia C. Cory, 1902, alt.

Music: KREMSEER, *Neder-landtsch Gendenck-
Clanck*, 1626; harm. Eduard Kremser, 1877
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that once again,
we have done what is evil in your sight.
We've made mistakes.
We've made missteps.
We have hurt people,
by action and inaction.
We have wounded creation,
by action and inaction.
We have chosen our ways over yours,
by action and inaction.
Have mercy on us, Lord.
Hear our confession, and respond to us with kindness,
that we might turn towards goodness,
walk in the light,
and live in equity and peace;
through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Sisters and brothers,
because we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ,
we need not fear—
All: **for he lived for us, he died for us,
he was raised for us and prays for us.**
One: Take to heart the good news,
and believe the promise of God.
For your sins are forgiven by the mercy of Christ,
and you are freed to love one another.
All: **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 25:14-30

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Risky Business” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” GtG 716

1. **God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.**

2. **Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.**

3. **Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.**

Words: Robert L. Edwards, 1961, alt.

© 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society (admin. Hope Publishing Company)

Music harm. James H. Wood, 1958

© 1958, ren. 1986 Broadman Press (admin. Music Services)

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Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

(next page...)

**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: God of grace...
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*

We give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God. Accept now the gifts we offer, and use them to bless this community and beyond. Remind us of how much we have been blessed, that we may respond in gratitude and faithful obedience. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Lord of All Good" GtG 711

- 1. Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you;
use them your holy purpose to fulfill,
tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
that our whole life is offered to your will.**
- 2. We give our minds to understand your ways;
hands, eyes, and voice to serve your great design;
heart with the flame of your own love ablaze,
till for your glory all our powers combine.**
- 3. Father, whose bounty all creation shows;
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live;
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows:
to you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.**

Words: Albert F. Bayly, 1962, alt.

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Music: TOULON, Genevan Psalter, 1551; adapt. from GENEVAN 124

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

All: ...**Amen.**

POSTLUDE

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