

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

Pacific Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come, people of God, to give thanks and sing!
All: **We come in remembrance of all that God has done for us.**
One: All around us the world shouts of God's goodness, power, and might!
All: **Let us join in the song of praise to God.**

***OPENING HYMN** “Now Thank We All Our God” GtG 643

1. **Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**
2. **O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**
3. **All praise and thanks to God,
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son
and Spirit now be given:**

(continued...)

**the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is,
and shall be evermore.**

Words: Martin Rinkart, ca. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
Tune: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Cruger, 1647; harm. Felix
Mendelssohn, 1840
Public Domain

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all grace and glory,
we thank you for all your goodness to us.
Yet we ask your forgiveness for all our not-so-goodness.
Forgive us when we hoard your abundance for ourselves.
Forgive us when we fail to extend your grace to others.
Forgive us when we forget your care for us and
fail to appreciate the height and length and depth and breadth
of your love toward us.
Open our eyes to see you and your grace.
Open our hearts to embrace you and your way.
Open our lives to you and your work in our midst,
that we might reflect the image and embody the love
of your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: Sisters and brothers,
the news is so good we can scarcely believe it:
God does not hold our sin against us
but pours out abundant grace.
Give thanks to God
and by the Spirit's power
share the gospel far and near:
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

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 65
Joel 2:23-29, 32
Luke 18:9-14

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Give ‘n’ Thanks” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “For the Fruit of All Creation” GtG 36

1. For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.

2. In the just reward of labor,
God's will be done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will be done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will be done.

3. For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1970, alt.; © 1970 Hope Publishing Company
Used by permission through CCLI License #11178434 / #2457662.
Tune: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh melody, ca. 1784. *Public Domain*

***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!"**

(from A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Book of Confessions)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: Lord, in your mercy...
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*

For food and water, for all the blessings of the land, for family and friends who enrich our lives, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving to you, O God. We have been sheltered and educated and empowered by your generosity. In Jesus Christ, we have been shown a way to the wholeness you intend for us. Receive our offerings as a joyous expression of our gratitude. Use them, and use us, to further your work in Christ's name. Amen.

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** “God, Your Blessings Overflow” *[Tune 14]*

1. **God, your blessings overflow!
What can we begin to say?
How can we begin to show
All our gratitude this day?
God, we join to worship you,
Giving thanks for all you do.**

2. **Thank you for the life you give,
For each friend and family,
For the land in which we live,
For your love that sets us free.
Thank you, God, for daily bread,
And for feasts of joy you spread.**

4. **So we join in thanks this day,
And your gifts we freely share,
So we follow Christ the Way,
Loving, serving everywhere.
Spirit, may our lives express
All our daily thankfulness.**

*God, Your Blessings Overflow, Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette.
Copyright 1998, Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, All rights reserved.
Reprinted / Podcast / Streamed with permission under ONE
LICENSE #A-739819/#A-739796. All rights reserved.
Tune: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1838; abr. William Henry Monk,
1861; harm. The English Hymnal, 1906. Public Domain*

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

The Assurance of Pardon, Prayer for Illumination, and Prayers of the People (adapted) are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion*. Copyright 2013.

The Prayer of Dedication is reprinted by permission of United Church Press from *Taught by Love* by Lavon Bayler. Copyright 1998 by United Church Press.