

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024

First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP *(based on Exodus 17 and Psalm 78)*

One: Come, all who are anxious or burdened.
This is a time to experience good news.
All: Praise the Lord who is our provider.
The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.
One: Come with expectancy and anticipation.
God is present to greet you and change your life.
All: God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.
The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.
One: We are here to remember the ministry of Jesus.
We have come to be equipped for our ministry.
All: Glorious are the deeds of our God, and mighty are God's acts.
The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.

***OPENING HYMN** "God of Grace and God of Glory" GtG 307 *[Verses 1, 3, & 4]*

1. God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.
3. Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

(continued...)

4. **Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of thy salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930, alt.
Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1907
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Your holiness, O God, commands that we confess:
We have neither loved our neighbors as ourselves
nor honored ourselves as your beloved creation.
We have judged unjustly,
regarded others ungenerously,
profited at the losses of those near and distant,
borne grudges, desired vengeance,
and kept silence in the face of wrongdoing.
Forgive us, O Lord; love us, and guide us.
Help us give our hearts and lives fully to you
so our hearts and lives may be open to our neighbors,
especially those in need.
Help us to live in accord
with your way of compassion, kindness, and honesty;
and turn us toward lives of peace.
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(based on I Thessalonians 2)*

One: Beloved ones,
believe again the gospel, that in Christ we are accepted as we are.
Believe that we are forgiven,
loved with the delight of a nursing mother cherishing her child.
Believe that we are the church, the body of Christ,
called to love one another as gentle children of God.

All: **People of God, the Lord is loving, our sins are forgiven,
and we are reconciled to God.
Thanks be to God for this indescribable gift!**

One: In that promise is the power to love our neighbors and ourselves
as those beloved of God.

THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

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 Mark 11:27-33

Mark 12:35-37

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON “Whose Authority?” by Pastor Bill Vincent

***HYMN** “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee” GtG 738

1. **O Master, let me walk with thee
in lowly paths of service free;
tell me thy secret; help me bear
the strain of toil, the fret of care.**
2. **Help me the slow of heart to move
by some clear, winning word of love;
teach me the wayward feet to stay,
and guide them in the homeward way.**
3. **Teach me thy patience, still with thee
in closer, dearer company,
in work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
in trust that triumphs over wrong.**
4. **In hope that sends a shining ray
far down the future's broadening way;
in peace that only thou canst give,
with thee, O Master, let me live.**

Words: Washington Gladden, 1879

Music: MARYTON, Henry Percy Smith, 1874

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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.**

**In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
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 might and mercy...
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*

**Almighty God,
we give you thanks and praise for Jesus Christ our Lord.
As you have so freely given your love in him,
may we freely share your love with others
through these gifts we offer today.
Bless them, that through them
the needs of this world can be met.
And accept the offering of our lives
in union with Christ's offering for us;
and make us humble and obedient servants
to do your will in the world
and prepare for your coming kingdom.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Take My Life" GtG 697

- 1. Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**
- 2. Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee,
swift and beautiful for thee.**
- 3. Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee,
filled with messages from thee.**
- 4. Take my silver and my gold;
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use**

(continued...)

every power as thou shalt choose,
every power as thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne,
it shall be thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.

Words: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874
Music: HENDON, H.A. Cesar Malan, 1827
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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

***RESPONSE “Go with Us, Lord” GtG 748**

**Go with us, Lord, and guide the way
through this and every coming day,
that in your Spirit strong and true
our lives may be our gift to you.**

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POSTLUDE

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