

WORSHIP FOR SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2025
First Presbyterian Church of Union, Missouri

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME

GATHERING

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

- One: We are on a journey to follow the way of Jesus,
who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.
All: Like Jesus, we are not alone.
The Holy Spirit is with us. God's Word is on our lips.
One: Our call is to trust in God alone,
to do God's will in all things.
All: So we come to be equipped for our mission.
One: We gather for renewal of our lives.
All: Lord, help us follow you that we may serve you.
One: So come, let us worship and serve the Lord.

***OPENING HYMN** "Baptized in Water" GtG 482

1. **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
cleansed by the blood of Christ our King;
heirs of salvation, trusting the promise,
faithfully now God's praises we sing.**
2. **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
dead in the tomb with Christ our King;
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,
thankfully now God's praises we sing.**
3. **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,
marked with the sign of Christ our King;
born of the Spirit, we are God's children,
joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

Words: Michael J. Saward, 1981 © 1982 Michael Saward - The Jubilate Group
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UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you claim us as your own and call us to be your covenant people.
We confess we do not live as people created in your image,
nor do we lead lives worthy of the calling to which we have been called.
Jesus still calls, "Follow me"
and we offer excuses because we can't do that.
Jesus calls us to new life in the Spirit,
and we cling to our old habits and tired traditions.
Gracious God, forgive our sins.
Open our ears and hearts to hear Jesus's call
and give us grace and strength to respond in faith and love.
In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON *(based on Romans 10)*

One: Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.
All: **Our God is loving, just and merciful.**
One: Having called upon the wide arms of our gracious God,
know that you are forgiven;
and be at peace to love the Lord and serve the world.
All: **With joy, let us amplify God's grace into the whole world. Amen!**

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 READING Luke 3:1-3, 15-22; 4:1-21

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON "“With a Little Help From My FRIEND”" by Pastor Bill Vincent

*HYMN "Come, Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove" GtG 279

1. Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove,
with all thy quickening powers;
kindle a flame of sacred love
in these cold hearts of ours.

(continued...)

~ 2 ~

2. In vain we tune our formal songs;
in vain we strive to rise;
hosannas languish on our tongues,
and our devotion dies.

3. Dear Lord, and shall we ever live
at this poor dying rate?
Our love so faint, so cold to thee,
and thine to us so great!

4. Come, Holy Spirit, heavenly Dove,
with all thy quickening powers;
come, shed abroad a Savior's love,
and that shall kindle ours.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707, alt.

Music: ST. AGNES, John Bacchus Dykes, 1866, alt.
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***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
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!"

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

One: God, in your mercy...

All: ...renew us with the power of your Spirit.

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*

**Gracious and Generous God,
we are amazed by the good gifts you bestow in abundance.
Thank you for food that sustains us on our journey.
Thank you for the company of saints to whom we are joined.
Thank you for giving us your work to do on earth.
We offer back to you a portion of all that we have received,
in thanks and praise for the indescribable gift of your Son Jesus Christ.
Give us grateful hearts and willing lives
so we may follow our Lord where he leads us
and serve our Lord as he calls us. Amen.**

SENDING

***CLOSING HYMN** "Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading" GtG 287

(next page...)

**1. Gracious Spirit, heed our pleading;
fashion us all anew.
It's your leading that we're needing;
help us to follow you.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**2. Come to teach us; come to nourish
those who believe in Christ.
Bless the faithful; may they flourish,
strengthened by grace unpriced.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**3. Guide our thinking and our speaking
done in your holy name.
Motivate all in their seeking,
freeing from guilt and shame.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**4. Not mere knowledge, but discernment,
nor rootless liberty;
turn disquiet to contentment,
doubt into certainty.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**5. Keep us fervent in our witness,
unswayed by earth's allure.
Ever grant us zealous fitness,
which you alone assure.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.
Come, come,
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

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***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

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

POSTLUDE

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