First Presbyterian Church of Kirkwood

11:00 A.M.
Sunday, October 4, 2020

World Communion Sunday

100 E. Adams Ave. Kirkwood, MO 63122 (314) 965-0326 www.kirkwoodpres.org
ORDER OF WORSHIP

We Gather to Worship God

Organ Prelude
Meditation on “Peace Like A River” Brenda Portman

We Address Ourselves to God

Call to Worship based in part from Multiply the Gift by Ann Weems for the PC(USA)

Leader: We come this day to worship God, the one who created the morning sun and the evening star.
People: We gather to give God thanks and praise.
Leader: We come to worship God this day, the one in whom we all move and breathe and have our being.
People: We come together knowing that our brothers and sisters all around the world gather around tables this day in celebration of the Son who has made us one. We come to remember him in the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup.
Leader: We come to worship the God who brought us out of moments of darkness into the light, and out of death into new life.
People: We come in gratitude for the gifts of life, and the gifts of communion and community.
Leader: Let us worship God in hope and thanksgiving.

Hymn “O Christ, the Great Foundation” Hymn No. 361

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (The people joining)
Gracious God, we are reminded this day of the gift of unity. This gift calls us to live, speak, and seek to work together for the good of all. We are aware though, that too many times we fall short of that call. Help us renew our commitment to truly listen to one another and to be those who seek peace and justice. By the movement of your Spirit, strengthen our resolve to make sure that all who hunger in body or spirit are nourished and fed with the bread of life as well as the bread of the fields. Help us work for peace in this broken and fragile world so in need of healing. We ask these things in the name of your son who is our Lord, now and forever. Amen.
Silent Confessions

Assurance of Pardon

Response to Confession

“We Are Forgiven”

We are forgiven, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God, thanks be to God!

The Passing of the Peace
Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us offer each other a sign of peace.

Time with the Children

We Hear God’s Word

First Reading
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20
Pew Bible, O.T., pg. 66
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Bell Anthem
“Be Thou My Vision”
arr. Jason Krug

Second Reading
Ephesians 2:14-22
Pew Bible, N.T., pg. 192
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon
“For He Is Our Peace”
The Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard

We Respond to God’s Word

Affirmation of Faith
Leader: Jesus said, “I am the Bread of Life. Those who come to me shall not hunger, and those who believe in me shall never thirst.”
People: This is the good news which we have received, in which we stand and by which we are saved: Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, he appeared to Mary and to Peter, then to the twelve and many faithful witnesses.
Leader: We believe he is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.
People: He is the first and the last, the beginning and the end. He is Lord our God.

Minute for Mission: Stewardship
Julie Sells

Offertory Sentences

Offering of the People

Offertory Bell Anthem
“At the Table”
arr. Jason King

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table
Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

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

Holy are you, O God, for your mercy is endless and your love is from everlasting to everlasting. We are grateful for the promise of your presence throughout time and especially in this moment in time. You are with us in both moments of joy and in sorrow, offering the gifts of love and grace to sustain us.

We witness the bounty of the fields as a testament to the glory of your creation and the nourishment you provide for us in both body and spirit. We know as the seasons shift and change so does life in faith. We remember the story of Abraham and Sarah whom you sent out from their home to make a new home in the land of promise. We remember that it was you who responded to the cries of those enslaved in Egypt. We come this day to remember and give thanks for your faithfulness to those throughout time as well as to us this day.

As we gather around the table, we do so with the many gathered around the world from north and south and east and west. As we break bread together, we are nourished to serve you and your people. As we share this meal we do so as an act of our commitment to live as those called to serve and to heal, to seek justice and work for reconciliation in the world. We give thanks this day that through Jesus Christ your Son, you called us not only into service, but also to celebrate. For as he lived in the world, those who were blind saw the sun of your goodness, those unable leapt for joy, and those who were locked in the prison of their fears were given the freedom to love and live in new ways. Through him, too, you gave to us this holy meal, that we might remember and celebrate and with the whole company of heaven, joyfully sing:

Unison: “Holy, Holy, Holy”
Celebrant: In this day especially we remember that as we gather trusting in the presence of the spirit of your son to be peacemakers, to be those who work for justice and work for reconciliation in the world. We call upon your Spirit here in this place, to bless these gifts that they might weave us together not only with one another but with all your people. As we are fed at this table may we remember that we are called to feed all who are hungry in both body and spirit. Remembering that Jesus gathered to break bread with those he loved, we trust in his presence with us in this time and place. We give thanks for the grains of the fields and the vines that bring forth their bounty. We are reminded that just as grains of wheat become one loaf, we are called to become one body. We share in this cup of blessing, remembering that while the grapes of the vine are many, its fruit flows together into the cup that we share.

Unison: We come in hope, in joy, and in gratitude as we share in this holy meal. As you welcome and feed us again, may we in turn welcome and feed all those around us who hunger and thirst. For all this we praise you, O God, from whom all our blessings flow. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

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.

The Lord's Supper

Pastoral Prayer

We Depart to Serve the Lord

Hymn

“Called As Partners In Christ’s Service”

Benediction

Organ Postlude

Postlude on “Joyful, Joyful”

Brenda Portman

Worship Leaders: The Rev. Dr. Karen Blanchard, Associate Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Tom Glenn, Parish Associate
Music Ministry: Bell Choir; Anthony Heinemann, Hymn Leader;
Bill Stein, Director of Music Ministries; Travis Evans, Music Associate
Live Stream Host: Frank Darr

Thank you for worshiping with us.

If you would like to be on our email list to receive information on the life of the congregation, please email Paula at paulab@kirkwoodpres.org

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PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS SPECIAL OFFERING
A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ’s peace. Mid-councils retain an additional 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. Gifts can be made out to First Presbyterian Church, earmarked for “Peacemaking”. Thank you in advance.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
There will be a Congregational Meeting on Sunday, October 11, via Zoom, immediately following the live-streamed worship service, to elect members to the Nominating Committee for 2020. A link to join the meeting will be sent by email prior to the meeting.

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES
* Today at 9am, Rueben Rosario, a professor from SLU, began a series on Apologetics: The Art of Defending Christian Beliefs. These classes will be presented online via Zoom invitation and will be recorded as well. If you have not yet received a confirmation email and would like to be on the invitation list for Zoom for this class, or any Sunday morning Christian Concern class that will be held on Zoom, please send your name and email address to Karen at kblanchard@kirkwoodpres.org.

* The Spirituality group will be meeting on Zoom on the Second Sunday of each month at 9:45am. If you’d like to join in, contact Tom Edelstein at tedelstein@att.net

* The Men’s Saturday Morning Bible Study Group meets at 11am on Saturday mornings. Contact Tim Morrison at timothy.lee.morrison@gmail.com to be added to the Zoom invitation list.

CONCERT OPPORTUNITY
Bill Stein and Travis Evans will live-stream an organ recital on Thursday, October 22 at 7:00p.m. You can access this concert via the live-stream button on our church web site or on the church Facebook page.
O Christ, the Great Foundation 361

1 O Christ, the great foundation on which your people stand

2 Baptized in one confession, one church in all the earth,

3 Where tyrants' hold is tightened, where strong devour the weak,

4 This is the moment glorious when he who once was dead
to preach your true salvation in every age and land:
we bear our Lord's impression, the sign of second birth:
where innocents are frighted, the righteous fear to speak,
shall lead his church victorious, their champion and their head.
pour out your Holy Spirit to make us strong and pure,
one holy people gathered in love beyond our own,
there let your church awakening attack the powers of sin
The Lord of all creation his heavenly kingdom brings:
to keep the faith unbroken as long as worlds endure.
by grace we were invited; by grace we make you known.
and, all their ram parts breaking, with you the victory win.
the final consummation, the glory of all things.

The text was written by a leading Chinese educator, author, and editor who chaired the commission that prepared an important ecumenical Chinese hymnal, Hymns of Universal Praise (1936). This familiar tune invites comparison of these words with its usual text (see no. 321).
Called as Partners in Christ’s Service 761

1 Called as partners in Christ’s service, called to ministries of grace,
   let us follow, never flattering, reconciling folk on earth.

2 Christ’s example, Christ’s inspiring, Christ’s clear call to work and worth,
   help us bear each other’s burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.

3 Thus new patterns for Christ’s mission, in a small or global sense,
   that surround each person’s sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.

4 So God grant us tomorrow ways to order human life
   May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,

Text: Jane Parker Huber, 1981
Music: John Zurick, 1870