“Look Who Gather At Christ’s Table”

John Ferguson

Look who gather at Christ’s table! Hear the stories that they bring. Some are weeping, some are laughing, some have songs they want to sing. Others ask why they’re invited, burdened by the wrong they’ve done. Christ insists they all are welcome. There is room for everyone. Clouds of light surround the table; ancient followers appear. Saints confessing how they wrestled with their guilt, their doubt, their fear. Peter tells of his denying Christ was ever in his sight; Paul relates his fruitless efforts to obliterate the light. Their sad stories are repeated in a thousand different ways, but they share one thing in common: they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has invited north and south and east and west to converge around this table, where all life is fed and blest.

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Dale Wood

Pastoral Prayer

We Depart to Serve the Lord

*Hymn

“Praise God For This Holy Ground”

Hymn No. 405

*Choral Response

“Go Out In Joy”

Joseph M. Martin

You shall go out in joy. You shall be led forth in peace. The mountains and the hills before you shall all break forth in glorious singing; and all of the trees shall clap their hands and praise the Lord. Let all creation sing for joy!

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”

Rick Deasley

Organ Postlude

We Gather to Worship God

Organ Prelude

“Psalm Prelude I”

Herbert Howells

We Address Ourselves to God

*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather in the sanctuary of the Lord, a place of welcome and worship.

People: We remember the goodness of our God. We know our God makes us whole!

Leader: Remember the faithfulness of the Lord. Remember the joy of your salvation.

People: Our attention is drawn away; we are distracted from your presence.

Leader: Remember the goodness of the Lord. Remember the joy of your salvation. Let us worship the Lord!

*Processional Hymn

“Let Us Build A House”

Hymn No. 301

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (The people joining)

God of sustaining presence, you feed your people with daily bread. You sustain and nurture our faith as we strive to stay faithful to you. Continue to feed us. Continue to welcome us to your table. Continue to bless us. Forgive us for all the ways we exclude others from your grace. Forgive us for not tending to the needs of our neighbors. Forgive us our sin. Help us be welcoming and nurturing of all who join us in the same way you welcome and nurture us. In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

*Silent Confessions

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response to Confession

“We Are Forgiven”

Hymn #447

Thank you for worshipping with us.

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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.

Please Sign and Pass the Friendship Registers
See the insert regarding information on the life and work of our congregation.

Children's Message

Reception of New Members

**We Hear God's Word**

First Reading
Romans 14:13-23
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Bell Anthem
"Simple Gifts" Valerie Stephenson

Second Reading
Luke 9:10-17
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon
"You Give Them Something to Eat" Rev. Dr. David Holyan

We Respond to God's Word

Minute for Stewardship David Carter

Offertory Sentences

Offering of the People

Offertory Anthem
"Ave Verum Corpus" Colin Mawby

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving
Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
Unison: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
Unison: We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
Unison: It is right to give our thanks and praise!
Celebrant: Creator God, we are amazed at your holy and diverse creation. You made us in your image and offered us every good gift in the garden, yet we took for ourselves forbidden fruit, thinking we could be like you. In so doing, we rejected your intended diversity for us, a human sin that we still cannot shake. Prophets came through the ages to help us mend our ways. And still we fought and tried to conquer others to make all manner of nations live like one another. Jesus came and finally showed us how to truly love. He sat with sinners and tax collectors, he touched diseased bodies with gentleness, he lifted others from their deathbed and, even with his dying breath, promised rest to a thief on the cross. Gracious God, you gave us your Son. He died and rose again on the third day so that we might have life everlasting. With all who have gone before us, on this World Communion Sunday, your people cry out:

Celebrant: The grains have been harvested and the bread has been baked. The grapes have been collected from the vine and the juice has been pressed. They come together on this table for a holy purpose. Holy Spirit, come, breathe your blessings on these common elements of bread and juice. Bring us to the table with Christ.

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
(All communion bread is gluten free.)
Everyone is welcome at the Lord's table. We share communion by intinction -- by dipping a piece of bread into the cup of grape juice. If you are unable to come forward someone will bring the elements to you.