

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Rev. Kevin M. Pleas

Online Worship

October 4, 2020

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ” (vs. 1 & 3)

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Leader: We were created in relationship and for relationship.

People: We are created for community!

Leader: God knew it was not right for us to be alone.

People: We are created for community!

Leader: Through Jesus Christ, God entered into human relationship with us.

People: We are created for community!

Leader: We rejoice in our unity with all humanity.

People: We are created for community!

OPENING PRAYER (Unison)

Lord renew in us the gift of your Spirit, so that we may be purified in the waters of repentance, and with one heart we may glorify your name and proclaim your mercy. Open our minds to the scriptures, that they may become for us living words and illumine our hearts. Let your Spirit fill us with love to inspire our prayers for our sisters and brothers, and for the perfect unity of your church. And in our sharing of our communion meal today, remind us that we share this meal not only among ourselves, but in common unity with people all around the world whom you claim as your beloved children. In the name of Jesus Christ, who reigns with you and with the Holy Spirit, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN #386

“We Come as Guests Invited”

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Scholarship Recipients

PASTORAL PRAYER

Barbara Papagian

TIME OF SILENCE

OUR 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

SCRIPTURE READING

Peter Perich

Psalm 67 (New Revised Standard Version)

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us. May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

PASTOR’S MESSAGE

“All the Ends of the Earth”

COMMUNION HYMN #392

“Draw Us in the Spirit’s Tether”

THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

Using prayers and liturgy of many nations.

All are welcome to join in the sacrament using your own version of the bread and the wine.

INVITATION

“New Zealand”

CALL TO CONFESSION

“New Zealand”

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

“Korea”

Lord, thanks to you the dividing wall of the temple is no longer a problem for us, but the separating walls which we continue to build most certainly are. So, Lord, whether we are in China, Zimbabwe, or Afghanistan, or a member of an ordinary Christian congregation somewhere, putting up all the barriers common to human communities the world over, show us how we may begin instead to take them down. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

“South Africa”

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

“Peru”

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

“India”

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

“Nicaragua”

Loving God, make us good neighbors to all the suffering and wounded of our world. Even more, help us to see them as neighbors to us, bearers of our hope and salvation, calling us to conversion. Give us the courage to address the sources and structures of injustice, even if these are very close to home, and become prophets and workers in the process of transformation of this world – until it is a world that becomes what you created it to be, an image of you. And may all of us say together. Amen.

CLOSING WORDS

BENEDICTION (Unison)

**May God go with us in all that is gentle.
May Christ go with us in all that is brave.**

**May the spirit go with us in all that is free.
We go now in peace, to love and serve our God.**

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Please note: In these difficult times, we are holding you all in our thoughts and prayers. For those who are able, we are grateful for your continuing contributions to the stewardship of our church.

**World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2020**

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our brothers and sisters around the world.

One who shares my bread and salt is not my enemy. Arabic Bedouin Proverb

Today we honor our sisters and brothers from the four regions of the world by presenting the following breads.

North: From Northern Europe - Finnish Flat Bread

South: From The Caribbean Islands - Banana Bread

East: From Asia - Rice Cakes

West: From The American Indigenous People - Fry Bread

We come now to your table Lord

You are the Living Bread

We come now to your table Lord

Let every soul be fed.

Hymn No. 386 We Come as Guests Invited

1. We come as guests invited when Jesus bids us dine, his friends on earth united to share the bread and wine; the bread of life is broken, the wine is freely poured for us, in solemn token of Christ our dying Lord.
2. We eat and drink, receiving from Christ the grace we need, and in our hearts believing on him by faith we feed; with wonder and thanksgiving for love that knows no end, we find in Jesus living our ever present friend.
3. One bread is ours for sharing, one single fruitful vine, our fellowship declaring renewed in bread and wine: renewed, sustained, and given by token, sign, and word, the pledge and seal of heaven, the love of Christ our Lord.

Hymn No. 392 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1. Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name, two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them; Alleluya! Alleluya! Touch we now your garment's hem.
2. As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giver break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluya, Alleluya, so now bind our friendship up.
3. All our meals and all our living make us sacraments of you, that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true. Alleluya, Alleluya. we will serve with faith anew.