

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY
October 2, 2022
World Communion Sunday

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Around the world people gather to break bread and pour wine.

All: We gather with them in heart and mind.

L: Around the world the broken body is made whole.

A: As part of that body we join in its unity.

L: Around the world the Banquet of God is prepared for the table.

A: We, who share in the banquet, come eagerly to be fed.

L: Let us worship together, let us share God's bounty.

A: Let us worship god.

***HYMN**

O Look and Wonder

397

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

Great indeed is the faithfulness of God, and yet our hearts are not so reliable. We wander. We argue. We forget. We divide ourselves with anger and bitterness and falsehood. Let us come back together, and let us start by telling the truth. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins to God and one another.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, source of mercy and grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of creation, but in our greed and our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride and our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence and discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished too, O Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and *for* this table, and send us *from* this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord.

We reflect silently on the ways we have fallen short.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows. And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows. Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God of all things, and by the abundance of God's grace and the power of God's love, your sins have been forgiven. **Amen, and thanks be to God.**

***GLORIA PATRI**

582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Almighty God, give us ears to hear your story in these words of Scripture; give us eyes to see your story in the faces of those that surround us; and give us faith enough that, by your grace, we might serve you until the end of our days. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Exodus 14:5-7, 10-14

When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the minds of Pharaoh and his officials were changed toward the people, and they said, "What have we done, letting Israel leave our service?" So he had his chariot made ready and took his army with him; he took six hundred elite chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.

As Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked back, and there were the Egyptians advancing on them. In great fear the Israelites cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us, bringing us out of Egypt? Is this not the very thing we told you in Egypt, 'Let us alone so that we can serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." But Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid, stand firm, and see the deliverance that the LORD will accomplish for you today, for the Egyptians whom you see today you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to keep still."

The Word of God for the people of God!
Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

Music of the Morning

choir; Carol Venn, flute

SECOND READING

Exodus 14:20-29

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

MESSAGE

Rev. Ben Shaw

***HYMN**

The Rice of Life

524

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

adapted from the Belhar Confession

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family.

And we believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

***THE CALL TO OFFERING**

Per COVID-19 safety measures, we will not pass the offering plate for some time. As you feel called, you may leave your offering in the plate in the Gathering Room or donate online at MPChurch.net.

***DOXOLOGY**

607

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

... And now hear as we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right...to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Indeed blessed are you...the one crucified and risen.

Great is the mystery of faith: **Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

Gracious God...now and forever. **Amen.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

As you are able, please wait to consume the bread and juice, that we might partake together.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***HYMN**

Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises

538

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

And now may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all this day, and unto your life eternal. Amen.

POSTLUDE