



WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sacrament of Communion
August 9, 2020 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer

Voluntary Andante Espressivo

Percy Whitlock

***Ringing of the Bell** *The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.*

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Christian K. Choi

God lifts us from death to life
through the compassion of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Let us believe with our hearts and confess with our lips
that Jesus is our Lord!

The same generous Lord is Lord of all.

Let us proclaim together the Good News in praise and thanksgiving!

Let us worship together!

Ps. 105, Rom. 10, Matt. 14

***Hymn 761** Called as Partners in Christ's Service

Beecher

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend.
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.

Men and women, richer, poorer. All God's people, young and old,
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
help us to bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

***Invitation to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus, we call upon you to save us! We are intimidated by our
circumstances and fear them more than we trust you. We are distracted from
your purposes, and our doubts threaten to drown us. We are presumptuous
about your will, thinking less of others and magnifying our own
understanding. We allow our hearts to be hardened to the suffering and
fellow humanity of our brothers and sisters, and think first of ourselves. Jesus
Christ, Lord who searches our hearts, lift us from sin, and help us to walk
with you alongside those around us in faith, humility, and brotherly and
sisterly love. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

***Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

***Declaration of Pardon** Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. The peace of Christ be with you. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***Response of Praise** Gloria Patri

Commissioning of Steadfast Neighbor Service Team

First Scripture Reading Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
on your lips and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because^[a] if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Music Intermezzo

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land,^[a] for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus.

³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Meditation Bringing Good News

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

"As it is written, 'How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!'"

-Romans 10:15b

Introduction to the Offering

***Offertory Response** Doxology

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

Let us lift our hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.

Let us pray. It is our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe.... Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing 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 he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the One crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine.... Hear now the prayer Christ taught us to pray, saying:

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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.

Words of Institution

Music at the Communion Meditation

***Prayer after Communion** We give thanks to you, O Lord, for your sustaining presence and abundant grace. May your generous provision into our lives be shared outward, reaching the hungry in famine, the downtrodden in their oppression, and all people in times of trouble, proclaiming everywhere the good news of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn** Mission Statement Hymn *Woodlands*

This church is in the world for ministry.
With sure convictions may our faith proclaim
the love of God to our community;
a fervent witness to Christ's holy name.

With one accord, responding to your word.
Our adoration, hymns and prayers we bring.
Our young we nurture in your path assured
that evermore God's holy truths may ring.

This church is in the world for ministry.
Responsive to the hurts and needs of all.
Seeking solutions for society,
we strive always to heed the Gospel's call.

This living church, reforming, ever new;
give heightened vision that we see your ways.
With quicken'd pulse, we consecrate to you
empower'd lives to serve you all our days.

This church is in the world for ministry,
With hope, faith, love, we praise the Lord of Hosts.
Serving all ways the blessed trinity;
Creating God, your Son, and Holy Ghost.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Rejoice, the Lord is King Percy Whitlock

(*) The congregation is invited to stand

Worship Participants

Rev. Dr. Blythe D. Kieffer, Pastor and Head of Staff
Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life
Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
Dale Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts
Julie Blythe, Native American Flute
Lyle VanDeventer, Bass
Bob Fox, Videographer Elsie Fox, Director
Sara Eldridge, Bud Green, Rachael Hickman, Ushers
Bill Deemer, Mary Ray, Communion Preparation Team
Mary Ray, Safety Team