

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service on Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

*July 4, 2021*

Pre-Service Music

Welcome

Prelude:

Call to Worship

Why do we come to worship God?

**We come seeking a blessing from our Lord.**

What is this blessing that we seek?

**We seek an encounter with our God,  
who washes us in mercy, calls us to service,  
and fills us with love.**

Let us worship God together.

Prayer of the Day

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Opening Hymn #611: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Call to Confession

When we gather to worship God,  
we remember that we are God's people,  
but we have often preferred our way instead of God's.  
Trusting God's power to make us new persons in Christ,  
let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

**You are love, O God, and you have loved us from the beginning.  
Forgive us when we do not share your love with the world:  
when we choose selfishness over compassion;  
what feels comfortable rather than what is right;  
when we strive for success instead of faithfulness;  
when we value independence over community.  
Forgive us, O God, of the ways we fall short.  
Free us to try again, and let your love lead the way.**  
*(time for silent confession and reflection)*

## Declaration of Forgiveness

We who walk by faith and not by sight believe the good news—  
If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!  
Praise be to God for the mercy and grace that forgives our sins. Alleluia. Amen!

## Passing the Peace of Christ

*Gloria #582: Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines on Me*

## Prayers of Intercession and Lord's Prayer

Gathered by the Holy Spirit and fed by the word, we come together as the people of God to pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Gracious God, we pray for the church throughout the world, that you guide it in all its endeavors and inspire it to proclaim the gospel with boldness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for earth and sky, seas and deserts, plant and animal habitats that your good creation may thrive and flourish. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for leaders eager to show mercy, that your justice spreads to all nations and that all may celebrate freedom from oppression. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for those who live with pain or disease that leaves no outward sign, for those who grieve, and for all those who are sick or hospitalized especially those we hold dear in our hearts this day. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for all those gathered here today, for those who are visiting, those who are travelling, and those who cannot be with us today, that all experience Christ's presence and peace. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Into your hands, loving God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the grace of Jesus our Savior, who taught us to pray:

**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**

Hymn: #157 I Danced in the Morning v. 1,2,3

Responsive Reading on Psalm 136:

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>2</sup> Give thanks to the God of gods,  
<sup>3</sup> Give thanks to the Lord of lords,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>4</sup> to him who alone does great wonders,  
<sup>5</sup> to him who by understanding made the heavens,  
<sup>6</sup> to him who spread out the earth above the waters,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>7</sup> to him who made the great lights,  
<sup>8</sup> the sun to rule over the day,  
<sup>9</sup> the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>10</sup> to him who struck down the firstborn of Egypt,  
<sup>11</sup> and brought Israel out from among them,  
<sup>12</sup> with a strong hand and an outstretched arm,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>13</sup> to him who divided the Red Sea in two,  
<sup>14</sup> and made Israel pass through the midst of it,  
<sup>15</sup> but overthrew<sup>[a]</sup> Pharaoh and his host in the Red Sea,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>16</sup> to him who led his people through the wilderness,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>23</sup> It is he who remembered us in our low estate,  
<sup>24</sup> and rescued us from our foes,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

<sup>25</sup> he who gives food to all flesh,  
<sup>26</sup> Give thanks to the God of heaven,  
**His steadfast love endures forever.**

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1-12

Sermon: Change & Faith

Elder Susan Murray

Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

Let us confess the faith of our Baptism.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Maker of heaven and earth,  
And in Jesus Christ his only son, our Lord;  
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand  
of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost;  
the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints;  
the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body;  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Closing Hymn #353: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Benediction

Renew in us the commitment to use our gifts in the service of others, and especially for those in need. Let us be your hands to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, clothe the naked, comfort the weary and outcast, welcome the stranger, care for creation, and be loving neighbors to all people.

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Postlude:

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by William Owen, Mary Kwantes and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Susan Murray and XXXXXXXX*

*Portions of the service reprinted by permission of Presbyterian Press from Call to Worship®. Copyright 2020. Sundays and Seasons, Augsburg Fortress Press, Copyright 2014*