

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

July 25, 2021

Pre-Service Music: *Jesus Is All the World to Me* – Stan Pethel

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Simple Gifts* – Roy James Stewart

Call to Worship

Come, you who hunger for food.

Worship the Lord who turns wants into plenty.

Come, you who hunger for justice.

Worship the Lord who turns weeping into laughter.

Come, you who hunger for life.

Worship the Lord who is our hope and our strength.

Prayer of the Day

Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth. Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn #41: *O Worship the King* Vs. 1,3,4,5 (please stand)

Call to Confession

Atheists are not the only foolish people who act as if there is no God.

Even in the midst of the miracles of life, we often do not acknowledge God's presence. And yet, the Spirit is with us as the source of life.

Therefore, let us confess our sins and receive Christ's mercy.

Prayer of Confession

O Christ, when the crowds surrounded you, hungry for bread and for your word, you took an offering—five loaves, two fish—and made for them a feast.

Still, O Lord, we doubt the abundance of your grace.

Still, O Lord, we are hesitant to share the gifts we have.

Still, O Lord, we wonder whether there is enough for all.

Forgive us, O God, and make of us a more generous people.

Empower us to share the gift of our lives, and enlighten us to see the miracles around us. For you are the giver of grace upon grace, the one who turns want into plenty. *(time for personal silent reflection and confession)*

Let all God's children say,

Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

The river of God's mercy runs deeper and wider than our sin.

God removes our sins as far as the heavens are above the earth.

Beloved in the risen Christ,

we are forgiven. Amen.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Time for sharing of concerns and prayer list.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

WL: Lord in your mercy.

People: Hear our 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

Hymn: #509 *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly* (remain seated)

Prayer for Illumination

O Holy Spirit, creative power of God, strengthen us to the depths of our humanity. Feed us the bread of heaven so that we will share your love with the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Son of God, and Savior. Amen.

Epistle Lesson: (Sermon text) Ephesians 3:14-21

Gospel Lesson: John 6: 1-21
The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Powered by Love* Jonathan Kimball

***Affirmation of Faith** (adapted from the Confession of 1967)

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the form of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

Closing Hymn#468 *In My Life* (please stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

Postlude: *I've Got Peace Like a River* – Mark Hayes (please be seated)

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music performed by Lorie Francis, Mary Kwantes and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Jonathan Kimball and Eleanor Van Horn.

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