

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service on Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 29, 2021

Pre-Service Music: *Psalm of Stillness* – Tracy Craig McKibben

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Hymn of Solace* – John Turner

Call to Worship

We gather to worship in the presence of God,

as if we stood on God's holy hill.

We gather to worship as children of God,

as if we were standing in the waters of grace.

We gather to worship the living God,

for God is here among us.

Prayer of the Day

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn #744: *Arise Your Light Has Come* (please stand)

Call to Confession

Lord, who may enter your temple?

A person who obeys God in everything and always does what is right.

Though we strive, we have fallen short, let us confess our sins, to each other and our forgiving Lord.

Prayer of Confession

**You tell us, O Lord, who may abide in your presence,
who may dwell on your holy hill:
those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right,
and who speak the truth from their heart.
And yet, O Lord, we do not walk blamelessly.
So often we stumble on the path of faith.
The truth makes us nervous, and we pretend not to know what is right.
Have mercy, O God. Convict us by your wisdom,
cleanse us by your grace, challenge us by your presence,
and, by your forgiveness, free us to try again.**
[take time for personal reflection and confession]

All of God's children say: **Amen!**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Come and see what the Lord has done.
See what amazing things he has done on the earth.

By the grace of God we are forgiven.

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 joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

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

Lord in your mercy. **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: #301 *Let Us Build a House* (remain seated)

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray: **Lord, James reminds us to be quick to listen, but slow to
speak...to submit to God and accept the word that he plants in our hearts**

which is able to save us. Open our hearts as we listen to the word today, that we may then put it into practice in our lives. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Epistle Lesson: James 1:17 - 27

Gospel Lesson: Mark 7: 1 – 8, 14 – 15, 21 – 23

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Seven Plus Some Others*

Susan Murray

Affirmation of Faith – **We are not alone** (please stand)

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.
We believe in God: who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God. We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.
(from The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968)

Sending Hymn#717: *For the Life That You Have Given* (remain standing)

Benediction: (remain standing)

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Triumphal March* - Paul Thurgood (please be seated)

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis, Mary Kwantes and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Ray Fox and sermon provided by Susan Murray.

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