

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

September 12, 2021

Pre-Service: *Let It Rain* – Johnathan Kana

Welcome

Prelude: *Break Thou the Bread of Life* – Lloyd Larson

Call to Worship (from Psalm 138)

“Who do you say that I am?” Jesus asked, and Peter answered,

“**The Messiah.**”

Let us worship the One who is our Savior,

Let us follow in Christ’s path of love.

Prayer of the Day

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn #726: *Will You Come and Follow Me* vs. 1, 2, 3

Call to Confession

Let us confess our sins, for God has already forgiven us and is calling us to return to the Lord.

Prayer of Confession

O Lord, you have called us to take up our cross and follow you: to carry the truth of your justice like a banner and bear the yoke of life as your servant. We are hesitant, O God, to serve anyone but ourselves. We draw away from the imagery of the cross, forgetting that, in you, it has become a source of glory. Forgive us, O God, and call us once more to set aside our selfishness and follow in your way.
(time for personal silent reflection and confession)
Let all God’s children say: **Amen.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

Sisters and brothers, do not lose heart.

**When we call, God hears us; when we confess, God forgives us.
We believe and so we proclaim:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #583: *Glory to God*

Time for sharing of joys and concerns, and the prayer list (please be seated)

Prayers of Intercession

Lord in your mercy.

Hear our prayer.

Hymn #466: Come and Fill Our Hearts *sing 3 times*

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray:

**O Lord in these busy times, come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Settle our troubled minds that we may be open to your word, this day,
and every day. Help us to take up your cross, and walk in the
presence of the Lord. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Epistle Lesson: James 3:1 – 12

Gospel Lesson: Mark 8:27 - 38

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

Sermon: *Risky Living*

Communion Hymn #506: *Look Who Gathers at Christ's Table! vs 1, 4*

Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!

People will come from north and south, from east and west, to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

According to Luke, when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples, he took the bread, blessed it, and broke it and gave it to them.

Their eyes were opened, and they recognized him. This is the Lord's table. Our Savior invites those who trust in him to share the feast that he has prepared.

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 right and our great delight to praise you, O God.

We thank you for your steadfast love in spite of our human sin.

We join with the heavenly choirs and the faithful of every time and place to 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!

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and give it to his disciples saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way Jesus took the cup saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Together we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life.

Lord Jesus, come in glory.

According to Christ's commandment:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Through Christ, with Christ, in

Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen**

Let us 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.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.

Come to me and never be hungry; believe in me and never thirst.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. *(take the communion)*

Prayer After Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Closing Hymn #726: *Will You Come and Follow Me vs. 1, 4, 5*

Benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen**

Go in Peace, Live in Love, **Serve the Lord.**

Postlude:

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Jonathan Kimball and Cynthia Hobart.

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