

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service on Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 19, 2021

Pre-Service Music: *How Can I Keep From Singing* – Larry Shackley

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *One There Is Above All Others* – Robert Wetzler

Call to Worship

When the world around us seems to be shaking,

God's love is our foothold, which shall not be moved.

When the life within us is dry and parched,

God's word is our wellspring, our fount of living water.

Let us worship the One who offers us wisdom,

and teaches us how to serve.

Prayer of the Day

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Opening Hymn #373: *O Day of Peace* (please stand)

Call to Confession

From the book of James; Submit yourselves to God. Resist the Devil and he will run away from you. Come near to God and he will come near to you. Wash your hands you sinners! Purify your hearts...be sorrowful, cry and weep...humble yourselves before the Lord and he will lift you up.

Prayer of Confession

**You told us, O Lord, that whoever wants to be first
must be last and servant of all.**

Oh, how we long to be first, O God:

**to climb every ladder, frame every achievement,
get every promotion, and obtain every glory.
Oh, how we long to be first, O God, and oh, how we dread being last.
Forgive us, O humble Christ, and by your forgiveness, teach us.
Teach us to reframe our priorities. Teach us to be servants first,
and to let our lives flow from a heart of faith.
[take time for personal reflection and confession]**

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

Declaration of Forgiveness

Happy are those whose sins are forgiven, whose wrongs are pardoned.

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 #583: *Glory to God repeat twice*

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.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ 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: #727 *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant* 1, 2, 4, 1 (remain seated)

Prayer for Illumination *from Psalm 25*

Let us pray: **To you O Lord, I offer my prayer...teach me your ways O Lord, make them known to me. Teach me to live according to your truth, for you are my God, who saves me. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

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: *Quick to Listen, Slow to Speak, Slow to Anger* Josiah Accola

Affirmation of Faith – Prayer for Listening and Speaking
First Presbyterian Church or Rolla (please stand)

In all the relationships of our church life, community life, and personal life may we follow the teachings of Jesus. May we endeavor to speak the truth in love and be guided by scripture in our thoughts, decisions, and actions. May we respect and listen deeply to one another, keep confidences, and avoid gossip and triangulation. May we pray for and with one another, building each other up, realizing every soul is precious to God. Amen.

Sending Hymn#643: *Now Thank We All Our God* (remain standing)

Benediction: (remain standing)

The words of the Lord are true, and all his works are dependable.
The Lord loves what is righteous and just: his constant love fills the earth.

Go out and share this love with all those you meet.

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

Postlude: *Standing on the Promises* – Ralph Long (please be seated)

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis, Mary Kwantes and Jeff Sandquist. Worship led by Britt Whitaker and sermon provided by Josiah Accola.

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