

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla**  
**Worship Service for the Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**

*February 12, 2023*

**Pre-Service Music:** *Gather Us In* - Mark Hayes

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** *Meditation* - Roy Danielsen

**Introit #64:** *I Long for Your Commandments* Psalm 119 vs. 1

**Call to Worship**

We gather here as the body of Christ,

**God's servants working together.**

God calls us to worship, to hear the good news and sing our praise.

**We are the hands and feet of Jesus here and now.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #308:** *O God in Whom All Life Begins* (please stand)

**Call to Confession**

Our sins and failures can overwhelm us. Yet God waits to forgive and heal.

**Let us lay down our burdens and open our hearts,  
that we may receive grace and the gift of new life.**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Almighty God, you set before us life and prosperity, but we turn towards death and adversity. We do not listen to your commandments, we bow down to other gods: convenience, self-reliance, greed, bitterness. Break us of our longing for gods we can see and touch. Turn us back to you, mysterious and mighty God, that we may observe your commandments, and walk in your ways.**

## **Declaration of Pardon**

God is always offering us another chance.

**God is always offering life and abundance.**

Turn to God and receive the good news:

**Yesterday, today, tomorrow, we are forgiven! Alleluia!**

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

## **Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Glory Be to the Father #581:**

*(please stand)*

**Anthem:**

*Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Robert Hobby

**Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.**

## **Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

*Worship leader will lead the prayers.* Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

Called together to follow Jesus, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

Inspire your church that it may be a sign of life throughout the world. From the exploration of faith with children and new believers to missionaries and bishops, shape lives of faithfulness, so that all find abundant life in your ways.

Merciful God. **Receive our prayer.**

We bring to you our needs and hopes, O God, trusting your wisdom and power revealed in Christ crucified, 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 #410:**

*God is Calling*

vs. 3 and 1

(seated)

## **Prayer for Illumination:**

**Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. God is calling. Help us to hear the word of the Lord. Amen.**

## Scriptures for the Day

**Old Testament Lesson:** Deuteronomy 30:15 - 20

**Epistle Lesson:** 1 Corinthians 3:1 - 9

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 5:21 - 37

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** *Healing a Broken World* Jonathan Kimball

**Affirmation of Faith** *from* The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968

**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.**

**Dedication of Tithes and Offerings** (please stand)

**Doxology #606:** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as a people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn #547:** *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* (stand)

**Benediction:** (remain standing)

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

**Postlude:** *I Know Whom I Have Believed* - Ruth Elaine Schram

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Jeff Sandquist and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Maudanne Pursley and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.*

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