

**First Presbyterian Church of Rolla  
Worship Service for the Seventh Sunday of Easter**

*May 21, 2023*

**Pre-Service Music**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**

**Introit #258:**

*A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!*

vs. 1

**Call to Worship**

We may not know the time or the place,

**but we know that God is restoring the world.**

We may not see the risen Christ before us,

**but we know his spirit rests on us.**

We may not know what God is doing next,

**but we come together in faith, excited to discover it!**

**Prayer of the Day**

**O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #267:**

*Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

(please stand)

**Call to Confession**

Scripture tells us that our sufferings are known to Christ,

**that we can cast all our anxiety on Jesus,  
who restores, supports, strengthens and establishes us.**

Knowing this,

**let us come to God in a spirit of openness.**

## Prayer of Confession

**Christ our Savior, as you ascended, you left the work to us. You called us to keep the movement going, to witness to the ends of the earth, to pray, to heal, to glorify you through our thoughts, words, and deeds, to show the world a glimpse of the goodness you have given us. We have fallen short of this call. We have hidden ourselves in fear, sought our own comfort, and resigned ourselves to the status quo. Forgive us, and strengthen us to do your will, that we may be signs of your coming reign.**

## Declaration of Pardon

Listen to this prayer: “Protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.”

**This is the prayer that Christ prayed on our behalf.**

This tenderness and care for us shows us who Jesus is— the one who hears our prayers, responding to our longing for forgiveness with mercy.

**Thanks be to God, praise be to Christ, glory be to the Holy Spirit.**

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

## Passing the Peace of Christ

### Glory to God #582:

*(please stand)*

**Anthem:** *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* arr. Roy Ringwald

## 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.* Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

United in the hope and joy of resurrection,  
let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of harmony, as you drew your son to your side, you draw us to you and unite us with the planet and one another. Weave your church together in a web of mutual love for the sake of the world.

Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ our risen Lord, 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;**



**Benediction:**

(remain standing)

The God of all, who raised Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.  
He is risen! **He is risen indeed!**

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

**Postlude**

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Jeff Sandquist and William Owen.  
Worship led by Melba Read and sermon provided by Greg Emery.*

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