

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

*July 9, 2023*

**Pre-Service Music:** *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* - Anthony Giamanco

**Welcome and Announcements**

The Mission and Outreach Committee will be participating in the CHRISTMAS IN JULY for GRACE. These will be used in the GRACE for Christmas gifts. Our church has been asked to provide toys for children from birth to 3 years. Little ones need stimulation and education toys as well as fun ones. There is a box in the back of the church for donation. Thank you in advance.

The Mission and Outreach Committee is also asking for donations of 24 pack Crayola crayons (yellow and green box) during the month of July. These crayons will be used for the Back to School Fair being held on August 2. The last day we will be collecting is July 30. We have been able to donate 500+ boxes in the past and hope to again this year. Thank you in advance.

We have been invited to attend a Southern Gospel concert by the Abundance Quartet at First Presbyterian Church of Mountain View on August 6. We will meet at the church at 2 pm to carpool down together. Contact Jonathan Kimball if you would like to attend or want more information.

**Prelude:** *Peace* - Bob Burroughs

**Welcoming Song #386:** *Come, Worship God* vs. 1

**Call to Worship**

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you that are weary, and I will give you rest."

**All of us know what it is like to be weary.  
All of us carry heavy burdens.**

Let us accept Christ's invitation.

**We long to rest in God.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #267:** *Come, Christians, Join to Sing* (please stand)

**Call to Confession**

God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**Knowing that God is compassionate to all, let us confess our sins.**

### Prayer of Confession

**Faithful One, despite our best efforts, we have not lived up to what we can do or who we can be. Even when our intentions are good, our actions cause harm. Even when we want to follow you more closely, we end up turning away. We are at war with ourselves, and only you can bring peace. Still our souls, order our steps, guide our feet back to your way. Amen.**

### Declaration of Pardon

God upholds all who are falling, and raises up those who are bowed down.

**Jesus Christ rescues us from sin and death;**  
Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

**Praise be to God for this abounding love.**

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

### Passing the Peace of Christ

**Glory to God #582:** *(please stand)*

**Hymn of the Day #418:** *Softly, and Tenderly Jesus is Calling*

### 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.**

Confident that God receives our joys and concerns, let us offer our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of creation.

God of the covenant, you call ministers to proclaim your gospel of grace throughout the world. Inspire pastors, deacons, lay leaders, church musicians, and all ministers of your word as they carry out your work.

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

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, 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 #386:** *Come, Worship God vs. 4* (seated)

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**Living God, help us so to hear your holy Word that we may truly understand; that, understanding, we may believe, and, believing, we may follow in all faithfulness and obedience, seeking your honor and glory in all that we do; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Scriptures for the Day**

**Old Testament Reading:** Zechariah 9:9 – 12

**Epistle Lesson:** Romans 7:15 – 25a

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 11:16 – 19, 25 - 30

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** *My Yoke Is Light* Susan Murray

**Affirmation of Faith:** Prayer for Listening and Speaking – First Presbyterian, Rolla

**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.**

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

**Offering #710:** *We are an Offering*

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**God of good gifts, receive these and all our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel, through Christ Jesus, our risen Savior and wellspring of eternal life. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn #546:** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* (stand)

**Benediction:** (remain standing)

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, as we go out to share your message of love and hope in a weary world.

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

**Postlude:** *Love Lifted Me* - Tina Park

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis. Worship led by Carol Bennett and sermon provided by Susan Murray.*

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