

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

August 6, 2023

Pre-Service Music: *God Leads Us Along* - Lisa Hoekstra

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Deep Peace* - John S. Dixon

Welcoming Song #409: *God is Here* verse 1 (stand)

Call to Worship

We come, carrying just what we need for the journey:

five loaves, two fish.

We come, bringing whatever we have to offer:

our time, our talents, our gifts.

We come, knowing God will multiply our offerings:

in God's hands, what we have is enough.

Prayer of the Day

Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world: through your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Opening Hymn #409: *God is Here* verse 2, 3, 4 (please stand)

Call to Confession

When we call upon God,

God answers.

Even when our steps stray from God's path, even when our feet slip,

God listens to us and answers our prayers.

Let us offer our prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession

Generous God, you freely offer us all we need. You offer us the bread of life, so we may never be hungry again. You offer us living water, so we will never thirst. But we scoff at your gifts, wasting our money, time, and energy on things that do not satisfy. Forgive us and call to us again, reminding us of your gifts of new life that are ours if we would only accept them. Amen

Declaration of Pardon

Incline your ear, listen: God makes an everlasting covenant with us.

**God forgives us, renews us, refreshes us, and leads us onward.
Thanks be to God!**

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #583:

Hymn of the Day #321: *The Church's One Foundation* vs. 1, 2, 4 (seated)

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

Prayers of the People

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.

You gather your church together by the Holy Spirit. Inspire all the baptized to proclaim your abundant love throughout the world. Guide us in the mission of the gospel through word and deed.

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

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, in the name of the one who reconciled all creation to himself, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

(please stand)

Offering #710: *We Lift Our Voices*

Prayer of Dedication and Illumination:

God of good gifts, receive these and all of our offerings as we present them in faithful service for the sake of your gospel. Through the grace of God we have gifts in abundance and share them to support the work of the church in this place. We do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth, make us hunger for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 55: 1 - 5

Epistle Lesson: Romans 9: 1 - 5

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 14: 13 - 21

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *A Miraculous Feast!* Jonathan Kimball

Communion Hymn #503: *Lord, We Have Come at Your Own Invitation (seated)*

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

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out, and all are satisfied. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Sending Hymn #295: *Go to the World!*

Benediction: (remain standing)

Go to the World! to every place, sharing the hope and joy you have found in Christ.

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 Jeff Sandquist and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Dixie Finley and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.

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