

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

*Oct. 8, 2023*

**Pre-Service Music:** *Humbly I Adore Thee* - Robert Lau

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** *Soliloquy* - Edward Boughton

**Introit BH #166:** *The Heavens Above Declare God's Praise*

**Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day**

Let us come to learn.

**Let us come to witness.**

Let us come to change.

**Let us come to repent.**

Let us come to sing.

**Let us come to worship.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #846:** *Fight the Good Fight* (stand)

**Call to Confession**

God's law is right and just,

**offering us wisdom and enlightenment.**

Yet we ignore the importance of God's law in our lives and persist in our own ways.

**In humility, let us confess our sins**

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of the law and the prophets, We do not want to admit all the commandments we have broken. We worship idols of money, success, and power. We use your name to justify whatever we do. We do not honor each other; we covet, we lie, we wish evil upon others. Our sins are too many to**

**name. Forgive us. Speak to us and we will listen, remembering that you are our freedom and deliverer. Amen**

**Declaration of Pardon**

Do not be afraid: God loves us with an everlasting love;  
God's grace is unending. Siblings in Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God for such graciousness!**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Gloria #581:**        *Glory Be to the Father*        (please stand)

**Anthem:**                                *Grace Alone*                                Molly IJames

**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.*

Trusting in the transformative power of God's loving Spirit, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of all grace, you are the source of life and joy. Strengthen the resolve of your church throughout the world, that together we press on toward the goal of your heavenly call in Jesus Christ.

God of grace.        **Hear our prayer.**

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Gracious God, into your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unending love and amazing grace; 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 #332:**                                *The Right Hand of God*                                (seated)

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, speak your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives; through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Scriptures for the Day**

**Epistle Lesson:** Philippians 3:4b – 14

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 21:33 - 46

**Old Testament Reading:** Exodus 20:1 – 4, 7 – 9, 12 – 20.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:**

*“Top Ten”*

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** (stand)

**Offering #709:** *God, We Honor You* sung in canon

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**God of power, God of plenty, all things belong to you. We bring your gifts to the table, that all might be fed. Form us into the body of your Beloved, Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

**Sending Hymn #300:** *We Are One in the Spirit* (stand)

**Benediction:** (remain standing)

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

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

## **Postlude: Recessional - Humphrey Turner**

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Chancel Choir and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Maudanne Pursley and sermon provided by Susan Murray.*

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