

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

*Oct. 15, 2023*

**Pre-Service Music:** *Give for You* - Richard Blake

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude:** *I Love to Tell the Story* - Michael Cox

**Introit #803:** *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* vs. 1 Chancel Choir

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

Rejoice in the Lord always!

**All thanks and praise to God!**

Do not worry about anything.

**We trust in God who provides for us.**

Let the peace of God settle among you.

**We will share God's peace with all.**

**Prayer of the Day**

**Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace. Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn #10:** *Sing Glory to the Name of God* v. 1, 2, and 4 (stand)

**Call to Confession**

From ancient times to now, God's people have turned away.

**We are no different: we let fear take hold of us and try to go our own way.**

Let us be honest about how we have failed to follow God.

**Prayer of Confession**

**True God from True God, we have not built a golden calf, but we have worshiped idols. We have put our trust in what we build with our own hands. We find security in what we can hoard instead of trusting your provision. We listen to lies that spread hatred and division instead of the radical truth of your word. Forgive us. Melt down our idols until we see only you and fix our sight on your way alone. Amen.**

## **Declaration of Pardon**

God shows us a different way—

**a way of truth, honor, justice, purity, and excellence.**

This path is open to all of us if we reach out and accept God's forgiveness.

**Thanks be to God! We will live as God's people, forgiven and freed.**

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:**                              *Blessed Assurance*                              arr. Dale Grotenhuis

**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.

For the church of Jesus Christ in this and every land, that all followers of Christ share the mind of Christ and strive to live together in peace, staying firm in the Lord.

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 #13:**                              *The Mighty God with Power Speaks*                              (seated)

**Prayer for Illumination:**

**O God, your Word is more precious than fine gold, and sweeter than purest honey. As we turn to your Scripture, send your Holy Spirit to infuse your Word with truth and grace — so that the good news of your love would shine before our eyes and delight our senses ... so that we cannot help but respond with wonder, faith and trust. Amen.**

**Scriptures for the Day**

**Old Testament Reading:** Isaiah 25:1 – 9

**Epistle Lesson:** Philippians 4:1 – 9

**Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 22:1 - 14

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon:** *Come to God's Party* Jonathan Kimball

**Affirmation of Faith:** From The United Church of Canada, General Council 1968 (please stand)

**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** (stand)

**Offering #716:** *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending vs. 1 and 2*

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

**Benediction:** (remain standing)

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.  
May God's love dwell in you, throughout every day.  
May God's countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
May God's Spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

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

**Postlude:** *Legende* - Lani Smith

*Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Chancel Choir and Lorie Francis. Worship led by Luke Gutches and sermon provided by Jonathan Kimball.*

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