

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service for Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 18, 2024

Pre-Service Music: *Prayer* – Lani Smith

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Duo on “Trust in Jesus”* – John S. Dixon

Welcoming Song #308: *O God in Whom All Life Begins*, v 1.

Call to Worship:

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you deep respect for God.

Which of you desires life and longs for many days to enjoy good?

Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

Revere God, O holy ones, for those who live in awe of God have no want.

Let us pray:

Prayer of the Day:

O Source of all wisdom, you invite us to eat of your bread and drink of your cup so that we might walk in the way of insight. Like Solomon, we seek your guidance above all else. May we not treat your wisdom like information that answers our questions. Instead, may we inhabit your wisdom as we would dwell in a home you have built, our whole lives long. Amen.

Hymn #440: *Jesus, Lover of My Soul* (please stand)

Call to Confession

We call to God, saying, **“Have mercy on us!”**

We call to God, saying, **“Lord, help us!”**

We call to God even in the midst of our sin,

knowing that God is gracious and just.

Prayer of Confession

God of all goodness, we do not want to face all that is in our own hearts. We want to focus on the good— on the love, the compassion, the care— and ignore the bad— the greed, the envy, the cruelty. But before you, God, we must face it. Forgive all the ways we have let evil take hold in our hearts. Cleanse us. Help us face our own demons, and empower us to live a Christlike life. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

We have been disobedient to God, but we have received mercy.

Let us live our lives as those transformed by the abundant mercy of God!

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria Patri #583: *Gloria, Gloria (please stand)*

Hymn #738: *O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee*

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.

Calling on the spirit of Wisdom to guide our hearts and our minds, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

(brief silence)

Wisdom has built her house. May the church be a house of wisdom for all who enter. May we continue to grow and stretch in ways we never thought possible.

Merciful God, **Receive our prayer.**

We lift up these prayers to you, gracious God. Receive them into your holy keeping. We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and 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; 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 #361: *O Christ, the Great Foundation* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

Draw us close, Holy Spirit, as the Scriptures are read and the Word is proclaimed. Let the word of faith be on our lips and in our hearts, and let all other words slip away. May there be one voice we hear today — the voice of truth and grace. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 5:15-20

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 7:21-27

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Do We Believe Or Do We Follow?* Rev. Bob Morrison

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 be seated)

Offertory Hymn #652: *A Grateful Heart* v. 1

Prayer of Dedication:

God of field and forest, sea and sky, you are the giver of all things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn #839: *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!* (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

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

Postlude: *I Will Sing of My Redeemer* – Marty Parks

Scriptures are read from the NRSVue translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis. Worship led by Cynthia Hobart and sermon provided by Rev. Bob Morrison. Portions of the service reprinted by permission of Presbyterian Press from Call to Worship®. Copyright 2023, and Sundays and Seasons 2024, Augsburg Fortress Press, Copyright 2023.