

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service for the Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 4, 2024

Pre-Service Music: *Canzonetta* – Lani Smith

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: *Little Piece for Organ* – John S. Dixon

Welcoming Song #403: *Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty* v. 1

Call to Worship:

Here we are, Lord; your people, your Church meeting together in your presence.

We welcome each other and we welcome You.

Words from Scripture are spoken, and songs proclaim who God is and what God has done.

God calls the church into being and calls us to worship in this time and place.

Make yourself known to us new ways through our worship, our prayers and our understanding of your Word today.

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us pray:

Prayer of the Day:

O Teacher, in Jesus Christ you have shown that even a prophet can be rejected by those who think they know best. Teach us to listen for your word in our midst; let us not be too proud to hear. Open our hearts to those we too easily

disregard and the voices we readily exclude. All this we pray through the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn #421: *Have Mercy, God, Upon My Life (Psalm 51)* Please Stand

Call to Confession

Christ came for us in the midst of our sins.

Jesus meets us where we are,

God call us to repent and be healed.

Let us offer our prayers of confession.

Let us pray:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we acknowledge our guilt, and seek your face and your forgiveness. For we have not offered steadfast love to you or each other. We have not moved forward in faith but have allowed ourselves to be stifled by fear. Revive us, raise us up, that we might live before you, rejoicing in the knowledge of your love. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

People of God, hear and believe the good news:

God does not count our sins against us,

Christ came to bring healing, forgiveness, and new life to all who sin and suffer.

We have been offered a free gift of salvation,

God draws us together, offering salvation, forgiveness, and new life to all. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

Share the peace of Christ with those around you.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria Patri #583: *Glory to God* (please stand)

Hymn of the Day #267: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

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.

Listen for the prompt "In Your mercy" and respond with "Hear our prayer."

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

(brief silence)

Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace.

In Your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings (please stand)

Offering #709: *God, We Honor You (2x)*

Prayer for Dedication and Illumination:

Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us as we offer ourselves to you and open our hearts and minds to your Word of love. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

Centering Hymn #288: *Spirit of the Living God* (seated)

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Lesson: Psalm 51:1-12

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 4:1-16

Gospel Lesson: John 6:24-35

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Bread of Life* Susan Murray

Communion Hymn#525: *Let Us Break Bread Together*

Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving

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!**

... 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**

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

Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.

Sending Hymn #765: *May the God of Hope Go with Us* (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

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

Postlude: *Do, Lord* – Jason W. Krug

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

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