

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service for Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 8, 2024

Pre-Service Music: *Lord of the Wind and the Sea* – Lloyd Larson

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *For the Beauty of the Earth* – Mark Hayes

Introit: *Come and Worship* Karen Marrolli Chancel Choir

Call to Worship:

Trust in the Lord, **who made heaven and earth;**

Trust in the Lord, **who loves every part of it.**

Trust in the Lord, **who cares for those in need;**

Trust in the Lord, **who leads us to do the same.**

Let us worship God, **who shows us the way.**

Prayer of the Day:

God of mercy, in a hurting world, your love shows us another way to live. Help us to join in your work, mending what is broken. May our trust in you be our guide, leading us to care for our neighbors nearby and the ones we do not yet know. Amen.

Hymn #317: *In Christ There is No East or West* (please stand)

Call to Confession

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all of our sin, whose mercy endures forever. Let us confess our sins and come to God for healing.

Prayer of Confession

Time for silent reflection

Gracious God,

Have mercy upon us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Pardon

God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more.

By grace we have been saved.

In the name of Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Anthem: *O Sing* Kenney Potter Chancel Choir

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

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need.

Awaken in our communities of faith a spirit of radical hospitality. Encourage our churches to celebrate and embrace people of diverse backgrounds, experiences and abilities. Deepen our commitment to ecumenical and interreligious partnerships.

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

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, 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 #205: *Live in Charity/Ubi Caritas/Live in Charity* 3 x (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

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 35:4 – 7a

Epistle Lesson: James 2:1-10, 14-17

Gospel Lesson: Mark 7:24 - 37

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

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: *Standing in the Need of Prayer* 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 (please be seated)

Offertory Hymn #708: *We Give Thee but Thine Own*

Prayer of Dedication:

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sending Hymn #733: *We All Are One in Mission* (stand)

Benediction: (remain standing)

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

Postlude: *Sunshine and Joy Medley* – Mark Hayes

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