

October 4, 2020

Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time



Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Presbyterian Mission

We are filled with joy at your presence and hope you experience God's Spirit as you worship and meet with those around you. If you would like more information about RPC, please talk with any Session member or the Pastor.

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Bold Letters -- Indicate congregational response

GATHERING

Prelude

Prelude in G minor

Bach

Welcome

Call to Worship

Rev. Gloria Ulloa, Presbyterian Church of Colombia

We gather from the west to the east,

from the south to the north,

to celebrate the God of peace

Who accompanies us in our acts of peace.

This God of peace accompanies us in each and every circumstance around us.

We praise God's name! Amen!

Gathering Hymn

God Welcomes All

#399

**God welcomes all,
strangers and friends;
God's love is strong
and it never ends.**

Opening Prayer

Rev. Lydia Neshangwe, Zimbabwe, adaptation of "A Non-Traditional Blessing" by Sister Ruth Fox

Our God who is

Our Creator God

Our Heavenly Father

Bless us with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths and superficial relationships.

Bless us with anger at injustice,
oppression and exploitation of people.

Bless us with tears to shed
for those who suffer from pain,
rejection, starvation and war.

Bless us with enough foolishness
to believe that we can make a difference in this world.

In the name of the Father

and the Son

and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Call to Confession

Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student, Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East

Faced with God's goodness we recognize our failings.
In the knowledge of God's mercy,
we dare tell the truth about ourselves and our world.
In the confidence of God's children let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession

Jameel Maher Khadir, Near East School of Theology student, Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land

**Gracious Lord, creator of this universe,
in your generosity you have given us
a world of abundance and diversity,
yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.
We confess that we have defaced your creation
and poisoned our environment
through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain.
In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters
and intended for us to be united,
and yet we have built walls to separate us
from those who are different from us.
You gave us wisdom and creativity
and we have used those to trick each other
and to develop weapons of destruction and death.
You gave us laws to order our lives
and we have abused them
to take revenge and punish our enemies.
We love war rather than strive for peace.
We ignore the poor and the weak
and honored the rich and powerful.
In all this we have not lived according to your will.
Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements and for
failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise. In your mercy,
forgive us our sins.**

Silence is kept for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student, Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East

"God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ," through whom our sins were forgiven.

May he help us to continue to “preach peace to those who are near and far.” Amen.

Response in Praise

Praise to God the Father

#605

Praise to God the Father;
praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spirit:
praise to the Three-in-One.
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Almighty;
praise to the Holy One.

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

Reading

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Lay Leader: Phil Ruxton

20 Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³ you shall have no other gods before^[a] me.

⁴ You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

⁷ You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸ Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

¹² Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ You shall not murder.^[a]

¹⁴ You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵ You shall not steal.

¹⁶ You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

¹⁸ When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid^[b] and trembled and stood at a distance, ¹⁹ and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will

listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die.”²⁰ Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

Sermon

Putting Community First

Illumination Hymn

This Is My Song

#340

**1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.**

Together, We Confess Our Faith

The Apostle's Creed (Traditional)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

RESPONDING

Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Album Leaf

Debussy

Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

#606

Prayer of Dedication

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
Through your goodness
you have blessed us with these gifts:
our selves, our time, and our possessions.
Use us, and what we have gathered,
in feeding the world with your love;
through the one who gave himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Communion Hymn

Come to the Table of Grace

#507

- 1** Come to the table of grace.
Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.
Come to the table of grace.
- 2** Come to the table of peace...
- 3** Come to the table of love...
- 4** Come to the table of hope...
- 5** Come to the table of joy...

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is right and our greatest joy
To give you thanks and praise,
Loving God, creator and sustainer of all life.
You planted the first fields-

Wheat, barley, rise and maize-
And made us in your image
To care for your creation
You fed you people in the wilderness
With manna from heaven,
Leading them to a land of mile and honey.
When human greed trampled the poor
You spoke through the prophets,
Calling us to worship you with justice and peace.
Then, in the fullness of time,
You sent Jesus Christ, the living bread,
To lift up the oppressed and lowly
And fill the hungry with good things
Therefore we praise you, joining the faithful
Who hunger and thirst for righteousness
And singing the hymn of the whole creation:
Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna in the highest.

We praise you, most holy God,
For Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh
He taught us to share the abundance of your love,
Feeding the multitude,
Eating with sinners and strangers,
Offering his own body to save us,
And pouring out his life for the world.
When the risen Christ appeared to his disciples
He made himself known to them in the breaking of bread,
Even now he sets the table for us,
Inviting all to taste and see that you are good
Remembering all that you have done in Jesus Christ
We offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving
As we share this feast of love and grace.
Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour our 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 the blood of Christ.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
And one with all who share this meal,
A great multitude from every nation.
Keep us faithful to Christ's teaching and fellowship,
To the breaking of bread and the prayers,
Sharing our goods with one another,
And giving our possessions to those who are in need,
So that all people may have their daily bread,
This day and every day.
Just as the grain, once scattered across the hills,
Was gathered together in this loaf of bread,
Gather your people from the ends of the earth,
So that we may feast with you in glory
In the joy of your new creation.
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
All honor and glory are yours, almighty God,
Forever and ever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Breaking the Bread

Communion

Please partake of the communion elements at home as the participants in the sanctuary partake.

Prayer after Communion

SENDING

Opportunities for Service and Fellowship

Sending Hymn

We Shall Go Out with Joy

#539

1 We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.

We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.

Refrain:

Alleluia! We will go out with joy.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

2 Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,
sing a new song of joy.

Now anyone who's born of the Spirit,
sing a new song of joy. (*Refrain*)

3 We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God.

We will go out with joy in the Spirit;
we will go out with God. (*Refrain*)

Charge and Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you,
the Lord make his face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all from now and forevermore. Amen.

Response

Spirit of the Living God

#288

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Melt me; mold me;
fill me; use me.

Spirit of the living God,
fall afresh on me.

Postlude

A song

MacDowell



Rockville Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability or marital status. We also welcome and encourage the full participation of persons without regard to sexual orientation.