

Grace Presbyterian Church

October 6, 2024

9:30 am

World Communion Sunday

VISION STATEMENT

We are an open and affirming congregation.

**We genuinely welcome people of all ages,
race, ethnicities, genders, sexual orientations,
beliefs,
and those who are cognitively
and or physically challenged.**

Our vision is to be a community of love and purpose,
**each one engaged in ministry,
seeking to know Christ, growing in discipleship,
and embodying God's love for the world.**



Prayer Candles

Before Worship, you may offer a prayer and light a candle at the communion table.

We Gather

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call to Worship

O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name
in all the earth!

We proclaim your name to the whole human family.

We praise you in the midst of this congregation:

**O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name
in all the earth!**

Let us continue to praise our majestic Creator.

*Opening Hymn #25 "O Lord, Our God, How Excellent"

Call to Confession

When we reflect on the goodness and majesty of God,
we cannot help but recognize our own mortal frailty and
failing. And yet, God cares for us. Emboldened by God's
love, we can be honest in confession, assured
already of God's grace. Let us confess together.

Prayer of Confession

**Sovereign God, who are we humans, that you pay
any attention to us? And yet, you have entrusted us
to care for all of creation. We confess the times we
have thought too highly of ourselves, and the**

ways we have twisted our charge to care for creation into permission to dominate and subdue it. We confess the same human tendencies to dominate and subdue other people. It is easy for us to ignore or take for granted our own privilege, rather than seeking to dismantle unjust systems of supremacy. Your desire is for peace, but so often we choose comfort and call it peace. Remind us of who we are, and whose we are. Remind us of our interdependence with creation, and our dependence on you, our Creator. Set our hearts and minds on your will, made known to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Hear the good news: the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified are all children of the one God. Jesus is not ashamed to call us his beloved siblings and family. **Our sin is forgiven, we are made one with Christ and with each other. Thanks be to God!**

Hymn #582 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" (verse 1 only, please remain seated)

We Reflect

Prayer of Illumination

God of wisdom, though we are mere mortals, you are mindful of us. You know the voices inside and out that distract us. You know the words we need to hear. By the power of your Holy Spirit, enable us now to receive your holy, life-giving Word. Amen.

Reading from the Book of Genesis 2:18-24

A time for Children and the Young in heart

Reading from the Gospel of Mark 10:2-16

SERMON

Hymn #47 "Bless All Who Trust in God"

We Respond

MISSION STATEMENT

Our Mission is **to Know, Love, and Serve God**

Offertory Invitation

On World Communion Sunday, we are especially mindful of our connection to the global church, and our call to work for peace and justice. Our financial gifts add to our offerings of time, energy, and love as we seek to be people of peace and reconciliation. We have received in abundance from God. From that abundance, let us give, joyfully and generously.

Musical Meditation

Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, we trust in the provision of your love and the abundance of your grace. May the gifts we offer sow seeds of peace and justice. Enable us to use them according to your will, until each child finds welcome, and all of creation is healed and reconciled to you. Amen.

(Many thanks to all who contribute to the mission and ministry of our church in offering plates during worship and by electronic giving throughout the month).

Prayers of God's People (sharing of Joys and Concerns)
Lord, in your mercy/with thanksgiving, **Hear our prayer.**

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion

Majestic and eternal God, you have fed us with the bread of life and satisfied us with the cup of salvation. As we rise from this table, may we remember its expanse, and our connection to our siblings in Christ around the globe. Make us instruments of your peace and messengers of your love in thought, word, and deed. Make us one with you and all of creation through the power of the Holy Spirit. We pray in Jesus' name, amen.

We Are Sent

*Hymn # 515 "I Come with Joy"

*Charge and Benediction

Jesus said: Let the children come to me.

Beloved children of God, we go from this place carrying the blessing we have received, so that we may share it with all of God's children.

Go and live in peace, and the God of love and peace will be with you.

And may the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you. Amen

*Sharing the Peace of Christ

Peace be with you!

And also with you.

(We invite you to offer a sign of peace to those around you and as you gather for fellowship. We remind you to ask what folks feel comfortable with...a verbal greeting, a handshake or fist bump, etc. Do not assume.)

POSTLUDE

***Indicates, please stand in body or spirit.**

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