

Sunday October 5, 2025

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 22 – Creation Time 5 – Worldwide Communion

We Gather In God's Presence

Prelude: “Break Thou the Bread of Life” in a setting of J.S. Bach’s Prelude in C
William F. Sherwin. Arrangement by Cindy Berry.

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation

Lighting the Christ Candle:

Jesus Christ, the Light of the world.

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Call to Worship

Be joyful and sing as we gather to worship God!

Let the whole world sing praise to God!

We know that the One who made us is God!

We are God’s people, and God is our shepherd!

God is good! God’s love and faithfulness last forever!

Let the whole world sing praise to God!

Hymn VU 686 “God of Grace and God of Glory” Words: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930.

Music: Welsh traditional melody; arr F.R.C. Clarke, 1970. Words and Music in the Public Domain.

Arrangement © 1970 F.R.C. Clarke.

CCLI 11438349

God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your power;
now fulfill your church’s story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour.

Lo, the hosts of evil round us
scorn your Christ, assail your ways;
fears and doubts too long have bound us;
free our hearts to work and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days.

Cure your children’s warring madness,
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton selfish gladness,
rich in goods and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
Lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.

Set our feet on lofty places,
gird our lives that they may be
armoured with all Christ-like graces,
pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we fail not them nor thee.

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

Holy One, you made heaven and earth and all that is good. You have blessed us with so much and we don't even realize it. You have blessed us with so much and we take it for granted. All we see is what we lack. Free us from captivity to our complaints that we may praise You. Plant a tiny seed of hope in our hearts that it might grow into a bouquet for others. Increase our faith until it overflows in thanksgiving to You. Rekindle our desire to faithfully follow our Lord and Saviour, Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

Ministry of Music: "How Beautiful" Words and music by Twila Paris. Choral setting by Lloyd Larson.

A New Creed VU 918

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.
God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn VU 273 “The King of Love” Words: Henry Williams Baker, 1868. Music: ancient Irish melody;
arr. Charles Villiers Stanford, 1906. Words and Music in the Public Domain.

The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his
and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow
with food celestial feedeth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed;
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home rejoicing brought me.

In death’s dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still,
thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread’st a table in my sight,
thy unction grace bestoweth;
and O what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!

And so through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never:
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever!

We Open Ourselves to Receive God’s Blessings

Psalm 137 VU 858

By the rivers of Babylon, there we wept.

By the rivers of Babylon we sat down and wept
when we remembered Zion.

**There on the willows we hung up our harps
when our captors asked us for songs.**

Our tormentors called for entertainment, saying,
“Sing us one of the songs of Zion!”

By the rivers of Babylon, there we wept.

How could we sing the Lord's song in a strange land?

If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my hands wither!

Let my tongue stick to the roof of my mouth

if I do not remember you,

if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy.

By the rivers of Babylon, there we wept.

Scripture: Luke 17:7-10

[Jesus said,] "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

*The lectionary readings for this week are: **Lamentations 1:1-6; Lamentations 3:19-26 OR Psalm 137; 2 Timothy 1:1-14***

Sermon: "Quid pro no"

Hymn VU 460 "All Who Hunger" Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1990. Music: William Moore, 1825;
arr. David Kai, 1994. Words © 1991 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
Arrangement © 1994 David Kai. OneLicense.net A620168

All who hunger, gather gladly;

holy manna is our bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering.

Here, in truth, we will be fed.

You that yearn for days of fullness,

all around us is our food.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers;

seeker, be a welcome guest.

Come from restlessness and roaming.

Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered

in communion's love have stood.

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;
 Jesus Christ is living bread.
 Come from loneliness and longing.
 Here, in peace, we have been led.
 Blest are those who from this table
 live their lives in gratitude.
 Taste and see the grace eternal.
 Taste and see that God is good.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth, we join with all your people to give you thanks and praise. You formed the universe in your wisdom and created all things by your grace. We praise you for all your good gifts: the witness of saints and prophets; the work of faithful women and men; this earth in all its blessing and promise; and this bread, once scattered, now brought together and made one. In the hope that your people may be brought together from the ends of the earth into your reign of justice and compassion, we gather with those of every time and place to give you praise and glory:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

As we gather at this table, we remember that on the night before he died, Jesus had supper with his friends. He took a loaf of bread, thanked you as we have thanked you, broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Each time you do this, remember me." Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying: "Drink. This cup is the promise of God, made in my blood. Each time you drink from this cup, remember me." Eternal God, we unite in this covenant of faith, as we break bread and share the cup, giving thanks for your love in Jesus, the Christ. We spread your table with these gifts of the earth and of our labour. We present to you our very lives, committed to your service on behalf of all people. By what we do here, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Holy Spirit, as we offer the gifts of the bread and the cup for your blessing, so we present ourselves: our accomplishments, our failings, our hopes, our realities. Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole. Make us, despite death, alive. Make us weak, so we might rely on your strength; as we have heard the Word, may we listen to the cries of the poor; as we are family with those sitting beside us today, may we love our sisters and brothers in every corner of creation; as you hold out the bread and the cup to us, may we reach out to enemies to clasp hands as friends; as we acknowledge our limitations, make us bold to bring to you in prayer those things that are beyond us. We pray today especially for our brothers and sisters around the world, especially the people of Colombia, Ecuador, and Venezuela;

for those who mourn the loss of loved ones, especially the friends and family of Ken Pole;
for those who are ill or dying, awaiting medical intervention or recovering from treatment, especially Annette, Arnold, Barb, Butch, Barb and Wally, Jack, Mary, Rob, and their loved ones, their caregivers and those known only in the silence of our own hearts...

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. We continue praying the words Jesus taught us, saying,

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be your name.**

**Your kingdom come,
your will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For yours is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

Receiving the Elements

Prayer Following Communion

Eternal God, we thank you that you have called your people from east and west, and north and south, to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. May we be ever mindful that we are the body of Christ in the world today. May our hearts be open, our words grace-filled, our actions life-giving, and may our living reveal the presence of Christ who has met us here. Amen.

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

All that we say, all that we do is a reflection of our faith.

The tithes and gifts we offer to God are a sign of our faithfulness.

Offertory Hymn: "Give Thanks" Henry Smith. Tune: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music

Text: © 1978 Integrity's Hosanna! Music OneLicense.net A620168

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,

give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,

give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.

And now let the weak say, "I am strong",

let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us!"

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,

give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son.

Give thanks. Give thanks.

Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, we come to you with all that we have and all that we are.

Bless our offerings, and guide us upon our paths as we live into the heart of your being.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

Hymn VU 266 "Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound" Words: John Henry Newton, 1779;

v.5 anon. from A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1780.

Music: from Virginia Harmony, 1831; adapted and harmonized by Edwin O. Excell, 1900.

Words, Music, Adaptation, and Harmonization in the Public Domain.

Amazing grace how sweet the sound

that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found,

was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,

and grace my fears relieved;

how precious did that grace appear

the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,

I have already come;

'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,

and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me,

this word my hope secures;

God will my shield and portion be

as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.

Commissioning and Benediction

Go into the world and live out your faith with hope,
with courage, and with compassion,
for there is nowhere we can go where God isn't.
And may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
The love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit
Go with us all, this day, and always.
Amen.

Sung Response: "Go Now in Peace" Words and music: Don Bessig and Nancy Price.

Words and music © 1988 Harold Flammer Music

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Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there supporting us with love.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

Postlude: "Take the Bread and Wine" Faye Lopez

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Organ Recital Series: From Buxheim to Bach A series of four recitals will take place at Metropolitan United Church (London) at 12:15 p.m., followed by a light lunch at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, October 7, October 28, November 18, and January 27. A freewill offering will be received.

Moving Forward in Song! Come join a hymn sing celebrating 100 years of great hymns, and introducing the new hymn resource, "Then Let Us Sing" Sunday, October 5, 2:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Wesley-Knox United Church, 91 Askin St., London.

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Lectionary Readings:

October 12, Eighteenth after Pentecost, Proper 23, Creation Time 6, Thanksgiving Sunday
Deuteronomy 26:1-11; Psalm 100; Philippians 4:4-9; John 6:25-35