



# WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Presbyterian United Church • October 4, 2020 • 10:30 am

## PRELUDE

“Love Never Fails”

## INTROIT

“Creator of Mountains”

The Chancel Choir

**CALL TO WORSHIP** The day pronounces God’s glory without a sound, the night expounds God’s knowledge without a word, and yet their voice goes out through all the earth. Let us join our voices with the voice of creation in declaring God’s glory!

*Singing in Joy #230 “This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made” The Presbyterian Hymnal*

**INVITATION TO PRAYER** According to the Biblical Text the Lord’s law is perfect, his decrees sure and precepts right. Knowing this, we go day by day- planning to do better than the day before- but at days end we check our day and see our missteps- how we have fallen short perhaps to the point of breaking commandments. Nonetheless, the Biblical Text also tells us repeatedly that the Lord is gracious, merciful and abounding in steadfast love. As we bow our heads, remember that we can be confident God’s promises are sure, God’s character unchanging, so much so that we know we can come to the mercy seat and share our lives openly that we might be forgiven from the past we cannot change and freed for God’s good future. Let us pray.

**SHARING OUR WEEK IN PRAYER** Unchanging God, you have prepared us like for your vineyard on a fertile hill. You cleared away the stones, planted us with choice vines, and kept watch over us by night and day. But we have not yielded a lot of the good fruit as you may have hoped. We have allowed the weeds of chaos and self-interest, roots of anger and fear and draught of spiritual water and so our vineyard is choked with violence and injustice. Forgive us, we pray. Uproot the interference of ourselves, prune away the

**weeds of our indecision and shower spiritual waters of grace to quench our thirst through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May we join our voices in sharing the prayer that Jesus taught all his followers:

**The Lord's Prayer** *(Read along as the verse proposed by Pope Francis is included)* **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 do not let us fall into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen**

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE** *Reader One:* God refuses to give up on us. See God has sent his only Son to save us and there is nothing that can separate us from the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord. Friends, believe the good news, through Jesus Christ we are forgiven! May the peace of the Lord be with you all.

*Response:* And also with you. Amen

### **GLORIA PATRI**

**PREPARING TO READ THE TEXT** Lord, as we prepare to hear your word, we ask for your Holy Spirit to open our ears to the words you have for us today. Amen

**Lesson I** EXODUS 20: 1-4, 7-9, 12-20 Pew Bible Page 66

**Lesson II** MATTHEW 21: 33-46 Pew Bible Page 24

**Lesson III** PHILIPPIANS 3: 4b-14 Pew Bible Page 201

**REFLECTION** *"The Vineyard's Tenants"*

***Hymn Response #418*** *"God, Bless Your Church with Strength!"*  
The Presbyterian Hymnal

### **COMMUNION**

#### **Eucharist Invitation**

One: This table is for all of us, near and far, high and low, east and west and north and south. This table is for all of us, but it is not our table. It's not a Presbyterian table. It's not an American table. It's God's table, for all of us, and it's a table of grace and we each have a place to sit. You are welcome, you are invited, you are called: come, let us share this meal together.

#### **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**Many: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. Even when we were dust, when our story begins in dust, you were there, your word was there, your breath into the lifeless void. And upon your word all creation sprang into life. When we were in the wilderness, terrified, timid, you were there, your word was there, with manna just enough for today, with water even from the driest rock, with the abundant grace upon which our story always rests. And when we fell short, slaves to power and greed, you were there, your word was there, on the lips of prophets, and in the hearts of servants, in stories of revolution and revelation and liberation, calling us even now to acts of courage and witness and peace. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Many: 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.**

One: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Indeed blessed are you, O Christ, our Lord, for risking yourself among us, vulnerable and rejected; for teaching among us, teaching the radical hope of God; teaching grace to a world bent on vengeance, teaching love to a world bent on destruction, teaching peace to a world bent on tearing itself apart. You were there, your word was there, even to the point of death itself. Even faced with terror and hatred and the brokenness of the world, you rose again, to new life, to new creation, to resurrection, that we might know something other than the dust, that we might expect something other than the end, that we might work for something other than ourselves. And so you speak to us again, with these abundant gifts of bread and wine, with which we joyfully celebrate your dying and rising, as we await the table of the Kingdom yet to come, and as we dedicate ourselves again to you, thankful, and transformed, as living and holy sacrifices, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen. Great is the mystery of faith:

**Many: Christ has died,**

**Christ is risen,**

**Christ will come again.**

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break together, and the cup we share together, may retell our common stories together and reshape our common bonds together, and remember our common grace together, in the communion of the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ, the one in whose life and death you have torn down our divisions. And so may we be one with all who share this feast, on this day, of all days, with all your children at every corner of your table. May we share this abundant cup with all those

who thirst for your justice. May we share this abundant bread with all those who hunger for your righteousness, May we be united with every corner of your story, united in hope, united in vision, united in purpose, united in ministry in every place.

As this bread is Christ's body for us, send us from this table to be the body of Christ in all the world. Send us with a spirit of courage, a spirit of power and love, that we may be witnesses in all creation to the unending story of your word breathing life into the dust. Keep us faithful, and fruitful, and hopeful, and peaceful, until we come at last to the one table of your Kingdom, to feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm, with you and with your Word, through Christ and in Christ, the one who came for us, died for us, and rose for us, the one who prays even for us.

**Breaking the Bread** On that night... here is my body broken for you. Take eat.

**Sharing the Cup** At the same table, same meal, he took the cup... drink all of you.

One: Whenever we gather and do this no matter where we are in the world, no matter the conditions of the world, we are remembering Jesus and his life, death, and resurrection for all.

**Prayer after Communion** Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the whole communion of saint's witness to this feast, and for the ministry of churches around the world who gather with us today. By this broken bread may we each be restored for the work yet to come. By this shared cup may we each be claimed for the proclamation of your Kingdom. At this shared table may we be united as children of your promise, children of your word, dying and made new again, sent boldly together into the world as servants of your peace. Amen.

## **SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PEOPLE'S PRAYER**

**We pray for those who govern;** Grant wisdom to those who seek to comprehend the inner workings of the world, save them from arrogance, and enable them to work for the flourishing of humankind. Established by you are the nations of the world to order human community. We ask that you send your Holy Spirit to all leaders around the world and provide them with the gifts of foresight and mercy, compassion and hope so their hearts are kindled in love for peace among the nations and their leaders. Only you Lord can rescue us and them from pride of wealth or power and enable them to serve the common good.

**We pray for the communities of the world;** God, you provided the earth as a garden, and you commanded the human community to till the land that it may be fruitful. You planted communities of faith through our disciples down through time and taught them and now us to care for the vineyard so that our fruit is good and nourishing for all.

Whatever our role in our communities- please bless our work to the good of all and teach us to bare the burdens of our sisters and brothers with humility.

**We pray for your people of this church family;** God of compassion, you hear the cry of all who are in distress. Heal those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit; comfort them in their need and help those who care for them. May your healing comfort and gentle compassion be shared with those in need: Mabel Seymour, Isaiah, Sandy, Matt, Kim, Karen, Debbie, Felicia, Frank, Ann, Madyson, Rich Geddis, Ginny Adams, Rick Adams, Ted Wright, Sylvia and Henry, Mary Woodman, and Kim Tieper, Tish, Ed Queenie, Marilou Pudiak, Jane Morrison, Deb Barton, and Winnie Barton; Paul and Lizzie Smith in Arizona.

**We pray for the church and its mission;** God, in us you have stirred alive the Spirit you gave us that teaches us to seek for the truth in all things, to care for people no matter their origins and to come together in worship so that we are strengthened in our faith and our hope is renewed. Strengthen the leaders of your universal church and ministers of the gospel. Give them humble and obedient hearts after the example of Christ, who humbled himself in obedience to you. We have what we need to see what we can do and follow through for those who we encounter along our way. We also ask you to open our hearts and eyes to those who would bring us what we may need for our journey today. In all things, at all times, we give thanks to you, for your love that never lets us go; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen

### **Life of the Church and its Missions**

Today                    -Peace & Global Witness Offering/World Communion  
                                  Sunday  
October 8th            - Session Meeting, 6:30 pm

The Food Pantry is always welcoming new volunteers. Have some time to spare? Stop in on Monday 9-11 am or Thursday 4-6 pm to observe and sign up to assist the pantry.

KITCHEN RENOVATION continues.

FURNACE PLANS

### **Schaghticoke Food Pantry current needs...**

Mac and Cheese- Boxed and canned; Canned fruit and fruit cups; Oatmeal packets; Pancake mix; Jams and jellies; Canned tomatoes and sauce; Potatoes...canned or pouches; Canned Chicken and Tuna.

Items can be left at the donation bin at Shop and Save or at Chrissy's Cravings. For those of you placing Amazon orders, ship to 165 Main Street Schaghticoke NY 12154

**SHARING OUR BOUNTY TOGETHER** Knowing Jesus Christ surpasses all else. Knowing and being known by Jesus Christ reorders our priorities and shapes all our actions. Recognizing this truth, we give our morning's offering with joy and in thanksgiving for God's outpouring of goodness and mercy to us.

**Offertory** "Lord, I Come to Your Table" **The Chancel Choir**  
**The Doxology**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION** Gracious God, you create and call us, feed and sustain us, forgive and redeem us. We can never return to you that which you deserve. We present this offering as a tangible way of showing our love for and loyalty to you. As tenants in your vineyard we rejoice in being called to work with you in sharing your abundant harvest with the entire world you so love. Amen.

***Sending Hymn #443***

***"O Christ, the Great Foundation"***  
**The Presbyterian Hymnal**

**CHARGE** Go forth into the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Show love to everyone.

**BLESSING** Love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

### **Congregational Choral Response**

*God of love, God of peace, Keep us safe in your caring,  
While apart may each heart, Feel the love you are sharing,  
Mercy and grace are your promised gifts, Gifts which faileth never.  
God of love, God of peace, Lead and guide us forever.*

### **POSTLUDE**

**"Christ Our Fortress, Christ Our Cornerstone"**

*\* if able, please stand*

***For 'safe social distancing' the collection plate is located at the rear of the sanctuary. Please place your offering there upon your entry or exit. Thank you!***

**Ministers:** The Congregation

**Supply Pastor:** Rev. Lynne Hardy

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*Prayer and Visitation Chair: Marge Foster: 518-524-0836  
Organist: Sylvia Bunk Administrative Assistant: Elizabeth Hale  
Church: 753-6277 church e-mail: [presbychurchmouse@yahoo.com](mailto:presbychurchmouse@yahoo.com)*

Topic: Schaghticoke Presbyterian United Church worship

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

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