



WORLD

COMMUNION

SUNDAY

First Presbyterian Church

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First
Presbyterian
Church

Henderson, Texas

“Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences”

(* Please rise in body or in spirit.
Bold italic letters indicate congregational responses.

Service for the Lord's Day

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 6, 2019

God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of
power and of love and of self-discipline.

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

(each person prays silently)

*Holy One, Holy Three, On this World Communion Sunday we bring our diversity
and our differences to one table, Your Table. As we share, may we discover unity with each other
and with believers in all times and in all places. Amen*

Gathering

PRELUDE

Selected

WELCOME

Rev. Michele R. Goff

INTROIT

“Sing Hallelujah to the Lord”
(Sung by the Chancel Choir in solidarity with the people of Hong Kong)

*CALL TO WORSHIP - Responsive

Liturgist - John Tieken

When the world seems full of division,

Great Creator, make us one.

When it's hard to love our neighbor,

Great Creator, make us one.

When walls and borders separate us,

Great Creator, make us one.

When we close ourselves off to others,

Great Creator, make us one.

When we get it right,

Great Creator, make us one.

When we come together,

Great Creator, make us one.

When we are reminded we are part of something bigger than ourselves,

Great Creator, make us one.

When we ask others to join us at this table,

Great Creator, make us one.

May the blessing of our Creator who gathers, our Redeemer who invites, and our Sustainer who breathes new life into our broken Body, be with all of us and at every table we prepare this day and always. Amen.

***CLOSING RESPONSE #742** *“We Will Walk with God”*

Swaziland melody

***POSTLUDE**

Selected

***HYMN #401**

“Here in This Place” (v.1-3)

Haugen, 1979

PRAYER OF THE DAY

CONFESSION

SILENT REFLECTION

(A time of silence for personal prayer)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Good and Holy God, We know you love each one of us and you call us to love and care for one another. But we do not always love each other as you have commanded. We divide ourselves up, surround ourselves with others who are most like us, and erect barriers between ourselves and those who are different than us. We tell ourselves we are right, and they are wrong. We refuse to offer welcome to those who come seeking refuge. We tell ourselves other peoples’ needs and struggles are none of our concern. We make rules about who has a place at the table, who deserves to have their hunger and thirst satisfied, forgetting that at your table, everyone is invited to come. We hold tightly to what we have for fear of losing it, even while others do not have enough. Forgive us, God, for forgetting we are bound up together in your love, that we are family. Forgive us for the ways we fail to care for one another and therefore fail to follow your example. Empower us to share generously of what we have, and welcome all, just as you do for us at your holy table. Embolden us to do better, with your help, and to come together as the holy family we are.

LORD HAVE MERCY

Kyrie Eleison

“Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.”

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Be at peace. *Thanks be to God.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Friends, as we greet one another on this World Communion Sunday, let us remember that we are celebrating with God’s people all over the world, called to share what we have with each other, care for one another, and love each other. May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please pass the peace of Christ with one another.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Word

ANTHEM

“Thuma Mina”

(South African Anti-Apartheid Spiritual as sung by the Chancel Choir)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Habakkuk 1: 1-4; 2:1-4

Bibles,p.821/LG.p.1066

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL SCRIPTURE

Luke 17: 5-10

Bibles, p.75/ LG. p.97

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Mustard Seeds and Bread”

Rev. Michele R. Goff

DESCRIPTION OF PRAISE

*HYMN #770 *“I’m Gonna Eat at the Welcome Table”* (v.1,3,4)

African Amer. Spiritual

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - Unison

The Affirmation of Faith is adapted from the Belhar Confession

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - Responsive

As you hear these prayers, please respond by saying, *“Lord, have mercy. All are embraced at your table.”*

Eucharist

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Selected

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION - Unison

Gracious God, you create more than we could ever hope to return. You share more than we could ever hope to deserve. And yet, we pray, accept these humble gifts. May they honor and glorify you in all creation, and may they empower us for the work of witness and service, for the sake of justice, and for the sake of peace, now and forever. Amen.

*INVITATION TO THE TABLE

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. *And also with you.*

Lift up your hearts. *We lift them to the Lord.*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

The people may be seated.

Therefore we praise you, singing the hymn of the whole creation:.

HYMN #565

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

Haugen, 1984

... we offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving as we share this feast of love and grace.

HYMN #566

“Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen”

Haugen, 1984

... all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.

HYMN #568

“Amen”

Haugen, 1984

LORD’S PRAYER - Unison

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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION MUSIC #507 *“Come to the Table of Grace”*

Hamm, 2008

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION - Unison

Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the communion of saints and for the ministry of churches around the world who gather with us today. Having shared this bread and cup may we each be restored for the work of proclaiming your Kin-dom. At this table may we be united as children of your promise, sent boldly together into the world as servants of your peace. Amen.

Sending

*HYMN #176

“If You Only Had Faith”

Caribbean Pentecostal chorus

“Si tuvieras fe”

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

You were called to this table.

You were fed at this table.

You were united at this table.

Now, you are sent from this table

into all the world.

Go therefore into the world, with courage.

Set a place for all who hunger.

Fill the cup of all who thirst.