



World Communion Sunday by Kevin Middleton



Last Supper by Christina Saj

*Our Service of Worship, October 2, 2022*

## **World Communion Sunday**



**Westwood First Presbyterian Church, Cincinnati, OH**

### GATHERING AROUND GOD'S WORD

Welcome and Announcements

*[Please take a moment to silence all mobile devices and prepare for worship.]*

Prelude: "Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether"—arr. Gerre Hancock

Ringling of the Tower Bell

*[\* Where indicated (\*), those who are able are invited to stand.]*

Choral Introit: "Let All the World in Every Corner Sing"

**\* Call to Worship** (*Responsive*)

The Lord be with you all!

**And also with you.**

Around the world people gather around the Lord's Table.

**We gather with them in heart and mind.**

Around the world the broken body is made whole.

**As part of that body we join in its unity.**

Around the world the Banquet of God is prepared for the table.

**We, who share in the banquet, come eagerly to be fed.**

Let us worship together, let us share God's bounty.

**Opening Prayer**

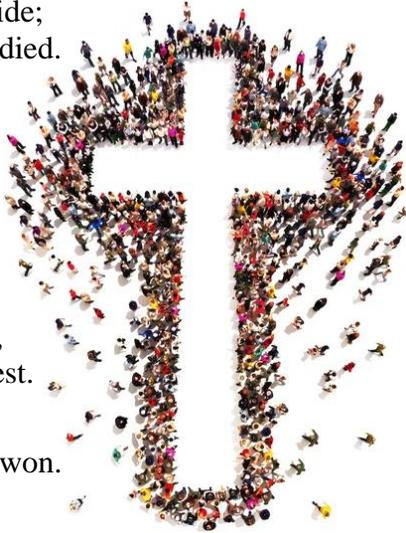
\* Hymn No. 442 (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5): “The Church’s One Foundation”

The church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord,  
She is His new creation by water and the Word.  
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o’er all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation of peace forevermore;  
Till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union with God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternally.



**Invitation to Confession/Prayer of Confession** (*Unison*)

**Almighty God, you have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed and envy, the world goes without. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.**

**A Moment for Silent, Personal Confession**

**Assurance of Forgiveness** (*Responsive*)

Even when our cups run dry, God’s grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God’s generosity overflows. And even when our hearts feel barren, God’s love overflows. Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God, and by the abundance of his grace, and the power of his love, your sins have been forgiven.

**Thanks be to God.**

May the peace of Christ be with you, wherever you go.

**And also with you!**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS**



**October WestFed Food Pantry needs:** Peanut Butter, jelly, bars of soap



Flowers are given:

- ♥ By the Hedrick, Renken, Witterstaetter, Grace, and Liegibel Families in memory of Donald G. Hedrick.
- ♥ To God’s Glory, and to remember persecuted Christians around the world.



Prayers are requested for:

- ♥ Elizabeth Durrell recovering from a broken hip.
- ♥ Anna Rechel, who had hip replacement surgery this past Tuesday. Sept. 27
- ♥ DJ Hines, Sandy Morris’ brother-in-law
- ♥ Kyle Kimball, Bob and Donna’s son, undergoing tests.
- ♥ Diane Ringshauser, who is undergoing chemotherapy
- ♥ Bonnie Shuman, Heather’s sister, recovering from recent health issues.
- ♥ Ruth Peck, a friend of Barb Nieman, as well as her cousin Claudia.
- ♥ Vicki Schickner and her family, in the wake of John’s passing.
- ♥ Janet Zeigler as she continues to battle cancer.
- ♥ Bob Peters, a friend of Denny and Beth Richmond.
- ♥ Walt Albers, Linda Gardner’s brother, facing cancer surgery.
- ♥ Bob and Cindy Robertson, friends of Pastor Jeff and Jane.
- ♥ Lore McBain and her family, cousin of Pastor Jeff.
- ♥ Cathie and Larry DeFazio, dealing with on-going health issues.
- ♥ Linda Kugele who continues to deal with breathing issues.
- ♥ Our homebound members and friends.
- ♥ Our Scouting units, their families and leaders.
- ♥ Our Session, our committees, and the discernment team.
- ♥ Our partnership with City Gosel Mission’s Princesses Ballet.



**A big THANK YOU** to those who have stepped up as Coffee Hour hosts, and as Sunday Sextons. Still, we could always use the help—if only to help share the load with those who do it regularly!



## MOMENT FOR MEDITATION: WORLD COMM. SUNDAY

And the table will be wide.  
And the welcome will be wide.  
And the arms will open wide to gather us in.  
And our hearts will open wide to receive.  
And we will come as children who trust there is enough.  
And we will come unhindered and free.  
And our aching will be met with bread.  
And our sorrow will be met with wine.  
And we will open our hands to the feast without shame.  
And we will turn toward each other without fear.  
And we will give up our appetite for despair.  
And we will taste and know of delight.  
And we will become bread for a hungry world.  
And we will become drink for those who thirst.  
And the blessed will become the blessing.  
And everywhere will be the feast.

~ Jan Richardson



Today we have the opportunity to appreciate and celebrate the uniqueness of his church, where diversity and difference reflect his glory and unity. We rejoice in the mystery of God and the amazing way in which Christ reflects God's glory. Today God's people all over the world are called to the table where all nations and tribes are fed by Christ. From all races, ethnicities, languages, and cultures we are called to worship together the God that offers open arms to anybody. From all ages—children, young adults, women, men, and elders—we are called to join in a community where God's people live and serve one another. From all economic stations, from all denominational affiliations, from all political perspectives we are called to honor the king of kings who is the only one who rules with perfect justice. In all situations we may find ourselves in, we are called to a journey where God's love and hope are the essential ingredients for bringing peace into a shattered and fragmented world.

~ Josefina Sanchez-Franco

\* Response: Gloria Patri (*Unison*)

**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.**

## PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

### Prayer for Illumination

**Scripture Reading:** *Philippians 2:1-11*—The Christ Hymn

<sup>1</sup> Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind.

<sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. <sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

<sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Sermon:** “*Welcome Here*”

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

**Affirmation of Faith** (*adapted from the Belhar Confession, adopted in 2016*)

**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.**

## Invitation to Stewardship

[No offering will be collected. Please place your offerings in the baskets located at the entrances to the sanctuary. Thank you for your generosity—now and always!]

## Offertory Prayer (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. In Christ we pray. Amen.**

**Offertory Anthem:** “*Let Us Break Bread Together*”—Gwyneth Walker  
Chancel Choir, Heather MacPhail, Director

### *Additional Text*

Verse 2: Let us love one another on our knees. Lord have mercy

Verse 3: Let us rise up together all as one. O Lord, have mercy and bring us peace.

## Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

[*ALL are invited to Christ’s table, remembering that access is not a right conferred upon the worthy, but a privilege given to the undeserving, enabled by the very act of which the sacrament reminds us.*]

### Invitation to the Lord’s Table

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.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving/Words of Institution/Sharing of the Elements

[*The elements will be served by “modified” intinction. Starting from the front of the sanctuary, please come forward in two rows down the center aisle. Once you’ve received a piece of bread, please take a small cup from the tray, and consume the elements before returning to your seat along the sides aisles. If you are unable to come forward, the elements will be brought to you.*]

### Pastoral Prayer after Communion and The 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 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.**

## BEARING GOD’S WORD INTO THE WORLD

### \* Hymn No. 514: “*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*”

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:  
Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one, at his table he set the tone,  
Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

### Charge and Benediction

**Choral Response:** “*In Christ There Is No East or West*”

**Postlude:** “*Old Hundredth*”—arr. Gordon Young

## LEADING WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Jeff Colarossi, *Pastor*

Heather MacPhail, *Organist/Director of Music Ministries*

Jason Dennison, *Videographer/Director of Technology*

Jeri Rathkamp, *Lay Worship Leader*

