

Spirit of Grace

ELCA UMC



Worship
October 3rd, 2021
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hid:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration
of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify
your holy name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us.
**We confess that we have turned away from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**
We are truly sorry and humbly repent.
**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done
and things we have failed to do.**
**Turn us again to you,
and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**
Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy,
loves us even when we were dead in sin,
and made us alive together with Christ.
By grace you have been saved.
In the name of Jesus Christ, ☩ your sins are forgiven.
Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit,
That Christ may live in your hearts through faith.
Amen.

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
God who formed us in love,
We know that you long for us to be in relationship with one another, reflecting the divine love in which we were created on this earth. Show us how to love like Christ, that we may reflect and receive such love in all of our relationships.
Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 2:18-24

Then YHWH said, "It is not good for the earth creature to be alone. I will make a fitting companion for it." So from the soil YHWH formed all the various wild beasts and all the birds of the air, and brought them to the earth creature to be named. Whatever the earth creature called each one, that became its name. The earth creature gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of the air, and all the wild animals.

But none of them proved to be a fitting companion, so YHWH made the earth creature fall into a deep sleep, and while it slept, God divided the earth creature in two, then closed up the flesh from its side. YHWH then fashioned the two halves into male and female, and presented them to one another.

When the male realized what had happened, he exclaimed,
"This time, this is the one!

Bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh!

Now she will be woman, and I will be man,
because we are of one flesh!"

This is why people leave their parents and become bonded to one another, and the two become one flesh.

Psalm 8

YHWH, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your Name in all the earth!
You have placed your glory above the heavens!
**From the lips of infants and children
you bring forth power and praise,
to answer your adversaries
and to silence the hostile and vengeful.**

When I behold your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars which you set in place -
**what is humanity that you should be mindful of us?
Who are we that you should care for us?**
You have made us barely less than God,
and crowned us with glory and honor.
**You have made us responsible
for the works of your hands,
putting all things at our feet -**
all sheep and oxen, yes even the beasts of the field,
**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea
and whatever swims the paths of the seas.**

YHWH, our Sovereign,
how majestic is your Name in all the earth!

Gospel: Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees approached Jesus and, as a test, asked, “Is it permissible for husbands to divorce wives?”

In reply, Jesus asked, “What command did Moses give?”

They answered, “Moses permitted a husband to write a decree of divorce and to put her away.”

But Jesus told them, “Moses wrote the commandment because of your hardness of heart. From the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female. This is why one person leaves home and cleaves to another, and the two become one flesh.’ They are no longer two, but one flesh. What God has united, therefore, let no one divide.”

Back in the house again, the disciples questioned Jesus once more about this. He told them, “If a man divorces his wife and marries another, he commits adultery against her; and if a woman divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.”

People were bringing their children to Jesus to have him touch them, but the disciples scolded them for this. When Jesus saw this he was indignant and said to them, “Let the children come to me; do not stop them. It is to just such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. The truth is, whoever doesn’t welcome the kingdom of God as a little child won’t enter it.”

And Jesus took the children in his arms and blessed them, laying his hands upon them.

Word of God for the People of God,
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Miranda Bermes-Goller

Hymn of the Day: All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly - ELW 461
The hymn of the day will be hummed only.

Joys & Concerns

If you have any joys, concerns, or prayer requests to share, please type them into the comment section of the livestream so that we may lift them up together as a community.

Prayers of the People

Gathered together as one people in God, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Loving God, you have molded a diverse and beautiful creation, a mosaic in which every member is unique and essential. Cultivate in us a sense of wonder for the world you have created, that we may be called to preserve and protect it for generations to come.

God, in your grace,
hear our prayer.

You have raised up faithful leaders throughout the generations. Empower all those discerning a call to leadership in your church, in whatever capacity that may be, that they may continue to be formed in love for the sake of your gospel.

God, in your grace,
hear our prayer.

You desire for us not to be alone, but to live in community with one another. The relationships which you have established and nurtured extend far beyond those gathered in this place. Bless those unable to be physically present with us, and remind us all of their continued place in our faith community.

God, in your grace,
hear our prayer.

Wise, nurturing, and welcoming God,

We thank you for inviting us into new understandings of your love and for lifting and holding us together in this holy space. As we celebrate World Communion Sunday, we rejoice in the ways that your children are connected through your son, Jesus Christ. May the gifts we present be multiplied and shared with faithful students around the world.

God, in your grace,
hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Offering

Offertory Prayer

Receiving the sacrament of the Lord's supper, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice. We present our gifts knowing that you have entrusted us to care for one another. Bless this World Communion Sunday offering as it is multiplied in partnership with other United Methodist congregations. Transform these gifts into blessings of your children's hopes and dreams as they commit themselves to building your kingdom.

Amen.

The 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.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

San - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

San - to, san - to, san - to, san - to, es el Se - ñor,
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord . . . God,

Dios del u - ni - ver - so; san - to, es el Se - ñor.
God of might and pow - er; ho - ly is the Lord.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo, ho - san - na en la
Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na here on

tie - rra. Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en el
earth. Blest is he who comes in the

nom - bre del Se - ñor. Ho - san - na en el
name . . . of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

cie - lo, ho - san - na en la tie - rra. Ben -
high - est, ho - san - na here on earth.

di - to el que vie - ne en el nom - bre del Se - ñor.
Blest is he who comes in the name . . . of the Lord.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears...

...For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,
we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth
from the bonds of slavery and death.

Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate,
to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup
with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice
in all the world.

Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise
with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that,
rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection,
we might live in freedom and hope of your Son.
Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language or translation that is most familiar to you - the language of your heart.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Instructions for Communion

This table of bread and wine has now been made ready.
So come to this table,
You who have much faith
and you who would like to have more;
you who have been here often
and you who have not been here long
you who have tried to follow Jesus,
and you who have failed;
Come and eat. It is Christ who invites us all to meet him here.

Communion Distribution

Prayer after Communion

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation
you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people.
Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming
love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Blessing of the Animals

Let us pray.

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of life. Recalling Francis who celebrated your love for all creation, today we embrace our connectedness to all: to wind, sea, and sky: to earthworm, giraffe, and chicken; to fish and puppy, to cats of the jungle and in our homes. Deepen our care for all that lives; in the name of Jesus, our teacher, savior, and friend.

Amen.

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of these animals in the life of our community. Through these creatures, you have brought many blessings. Today we pause to name our gratitude, and to pray a blessing on these animals in our lives.

We give thanks this day:

for Toby

for Snow, Lily, and Linus

for Caye and Louie

for Rex and the spring hatchlings

for Sandy

for Brandy, Raven, Cookie, and Peanut Hart

for Spice and Sangie

for the Rev. Dr. Luther Rowland

for Princess Pantley

for Deuce

for Belle

for Feather, Lolabelle, and Ramona

for Lulu

for Rex

For the companionship of our pets, for the lessons they teach us, for the love we both give and receive, we say thanks. Bless the lives of the animals in our care, and may they know love throughout all of their days.

Amen.

Gracious and loving God, you place all living things into the care of humankind. We pray that companionship with household pets will deepen our love and care for animals everywhere. Help us to balance our needs with theirs, and lead us in ways of life together that will be sustainable for all. We pray all this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Blessing

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

Sending Song: You Are the Seed - UMH 583

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the love of Christ in this world.

We will! Thanks be to God.

Announcements

- Amelia, the Garden Coordinator of the FISH/Spirit of Grace Garden, wanted to let us all know about upcoming volunteer opportunities. For the next couple of weeks, on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 8am you can come to help with harvesting, and on Thursdays at 9am you can come to help with garden maintenance! If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Amelia at fishgardenvc@gmail.com.
- If you haven't seen a copy of our September/October Newsletter yet, be sure to check it out on our website or grab a printed copy in the Narthex on your way out today.
- We are still in need of one or two people who are willing to be trained on how to run Sound and Powerpoint. Right now Rick and Linda share this task, and it would be better if we could have one or two other people in that rotation as well. If you are willing (it's not that hard, we promise!), talk to Pastor Miranda or Rick.

Spirit of Grace ELCA UMC

1140 Tucker Rd. Hood River, OR 97031

541-386-3993

www.hoodriverchurch.org

Church Office Hours

Closed on Fridays

Pastor Miranda Bermes-Goller

M-W 9-12, or by appointment

spiritofgracepastor@gmail.com

Jennifer Fowler, Office Assistant

Mon 9:30-2, Wednesday 9:00-2, Thursday 9:00-2

office@hoodriverchurch.com

Linda Boris, Pastoral Assistant

Tuesday 10-1