

WELCOME TO...

The Presbyterian Church of
Saint David

October 05, 2014



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Gathering: *As Jesus requested, the table has been prepared, and all are welcome at the meal. So come—each of you, all of you—come to the table: Those, like Peter, with more enthusiasm than resolve— Come to the table; Those, like James and John, dismayed by Kingdom priorities— Come to the table; Those, like Mary, full of love and grief— Come to the table; Those, like Martha, struggling for faith in the face of despair— Come to the table; Those, like Judas, disillusioned and rebellious— Come to the table. Jesus offers the bread and the cup to all who have*

gathered, Let us worship God with joy!

Hymn: O for a world (vs. 1-2)

730

A Prayer to guide us: *We will not find that needed justice in our apathy; we will not find that elusive wholeness with our quarreling; we will not find our hoped for unity with our doctrines; we will not find our misplaced love with our hating; we will not find that rest we crave in our overflowing planners; we will not find the peace you offer in our well nursed grudges. But we will find you in the brokenness of the Bread and in the breaking of our hearts; we will find you when we drain the Cup, refill it with our gifts, and offer it to a little child; we will find you when we squeeze closer together, making room at the Table for all your people. Help us to find you, God in Community, Holy in One.* ~ written by Thom Shuman

Hymn: O for a world (vs. 3-5)

730

Prayer: *Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on us. All of us - sons, daughters, parents, men and women of all ages - so that we can dream dreams and see visions of what could be. Spirit of the living God, bestow your gifts on us. We need the Spirit's gifts of wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miraculous powers, prophecy, discernment, different tongues and interpretation. These gifts are required for our common good, but also to bring about healing and reconciliation with our Indigenous brothers and sisters. Spirit of the living God, show wonders among us. Wonders in the heaven above, and signs on the earth below. Spirit of the living God, bring us the peace and forgiveness that Jesus promised. And, Spirit of the living God, set us right. Allow us to call on you to save us before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. Amen.*

Hymn: Christ, you call us all to service

585

Thanksgiving: *We give you thanks, O God, for the life and knowledge which you have made known to us through your Son Jesus; yours is the glory for ever and ever. As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on this table in bread and wine, so, Lord, may your whole church soon be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom; for yours is the glory and power, through Jesus Christ, for ever and ever. Amen.* ~ From the *Didache*

(2nd century)

*God of all nations, we give You thanks that we are all made in Your image, with such rich diversity. **On this day we are in solidarity with the faithful around the world.** As we break bread together, we remember that we are still one body in You, even though we have different languages, cultures and traditions, different ways of worship, praying and praising. **In solidarity we drink the cup together of hope, of new life, knowing that Your will is for Your people to be one body.** We are one body, but we are not the same—it is through the gift of diversity that we are able to be Your body. **We thank You and praise You for making us all who we are, individually and collectively.** We each celebrate our own ancestry, culture and ethnicity, and we pray to You now as You taught us...* ~ written by Rev. Mindi

Intercessions

Prayers of the People: Christian Unity

With faith we pray to God – Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our local Christian communities, our churches and ecumenical groups; for those here present, and those who are absent from our assembly today. Lord, forgive us when we are indifferent to each other, and bring your healing to the wounds and divisions that keep us apart.

Let us pray for a deeper appreciation of our common baptism into the one body of Christ. Lord, sustain each of us and our communities as we continue on the path towards the unity you desire for all your disciples.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for our spiritual leaders and church authorities, that the Spirit may continue to enlighten them and grant them the grace to work in harmony, joy and love.

Let us pray for all civil authorities. Lord, grant that they may work towards justice and peace, and give them the wisdom to attend to the needs of all, especially the most vulnerable.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all the nations and communities who live with deep divisions and internal conflicts. Lord, we remember in a special way the people of Korea, north and south, that their search for unity in spite of political divisions and separation may bear fruit, and be a sign of hope for all who seek reconciliation in the midst of divisions.

Let us pray in thanksgiving for those who, inspired by you, Lord, have held an important place in our lives of faith, and for all who have reflected your forgiveness, compassion and love. May their gifts and generosity inspire our own desire to give and to serve with our lives.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Let us pray for all those who bring the gospel to bear on the great ethical challenges of our times. Lord, may we each learn to play our part in mitigating the global and ecological disasters which bring human suffering and threaten your creation.

Let us pray for all Christian churches and ask for your help, Lord, so that one day they may be able to gather around the table and share the fellowship of holy communion.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Thomas Merton.

Prayer for Unity

“My prayer for all of them is that they will be one.... Then the world will know that you sent me and will understand that you love them as much as you love me.” John 17:21, 23

O God, we are one with you.

You have made us one with you.
You have taught us that if we are open to one another,
you dwell in us.
Help us to preserve this openness
and to fight for it with all our hearts.

Help us to realize that there can be no understanding
where there is mutual rejection.
O God, in accepting one another wholeheartedly, fully, completely,
we accept you, and we thank you, and we adore you,
and we love you with our whole being,
because our being is in your being,
our spirit is rooted in your spirit.

Fill us then with love,
and let us be bound together with love as we go our diverse ways,
united in this one spirit which makes you present in the world,
and makes you witness to the ultimate reality that is love.
Love has overcome.
Love is victorious.

~ written by Thomas Merton (1915-1968)

Invitation: *Friends, this is the joyful feast of unity. Christ has gathered his people
around the earth to commune at this table.*

**Across political lines and economic lines, in places of powerfully
protected affluence, and among the poorest of the poor, we share a
meal, remembering and celebrating the One who proved shalom
possible. And so, come: you from the East and you from the West,
from the North and from the South. Come. Come with your doubts, come with your
hopes, come with your inadequacies and with your strengths. We come, for this is
a table where we are all invited and all are welcome.**

*What do you bring to Christ's table? We bring bread, made by many
people's work from an unjust world where some have plenty
and most go hungry.*

At this table, all are fed and no one turned away. Thanks be to God.

*What do you bring to Christ's table? We bring wine, made by many
people's work from an unjust world where some have leisure
and most struggle to survive.*

At this table, all share the cup of pain and celebration And no one is denied.

Thanks be to God

*These gifts shall be for us the body and blood of Christ, Our witness against
hunger, our cry against injustice, And our hope for a world where God is fully
known And every child is fed. Thanks be to God ~ by Brian Wren~*

Hymn: One bread, one body

530

Communion

Prayer after Communion *Thanks be to you, uniting God, for your love
and mercy and forgiveness in Christ. May the blessings of this table
strengthen our faith, increase our generosity and unify our
hearts, for we pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One.
Amen.*

Hymn: Sent forth by your blessing (verse 1)

775

*We have sung, we have prayed, we have worshiped together. Now we go
back out into the world. We came together to build relationships,
relationships with each other, and our relationship with
Jesus. We go out as people who are strengthened by our connections. Ready
to love and to serve.*

Ready to carry God's love to the world. As you journey through
the ups and the downs of the coming week, **let us remember that
God, who has invited us into relationship, is always with us.**
Go with God, as the people of God. **So be it! Amen**