

Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
October 2, 2022
17th Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday



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Pastor Russel is available 24 hours per day, 7 days per week.

Welcome Visitors: We are pleased you have chosen to worship with us today. If you have questions concerning the service, please feel free to ask an usher or a person sitting near you. If you do not have a permanent church home, please consider joining us. May God bless your experience in worship with us today. We are here to serve, so please let us know how we might better serve you.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

*OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Lift Every Voice and Sing'

No. 519

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Today we gather around God's table from near and far.

People: We are the People of God!

Pastor: Though we differ in language, custom, and tradition.

People: We are brothers and sisters in Christ!

Pastor: For there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.

People: We are One in God's Spirit!

Pastor: We are one and together we remember our Lord Jesus,

People: for we are the people of Redemption!

Pastor: He gave himself up for us, so we could be reconciled to God.

People: Come, let us worship the God of our Salvation!

OPENING PRAYER

Today, God, we confess fumbings and failures in accomplishing unity, as we set aside yet another day to remind ourselves of the task. On this World Communion Sunday, give us eyes to recognize your reflection in the eyes of Christians everywhere. Give us a mind to accept and celebrate our differences. Give us a heart big enough to love your children everywhere. We thank you for setting a table with space enough for us all! Amen.

INTROIT

'Bind Us Together'

TFWS No. 2226

CHILDREN'S MOMENTS

CELEBRATION THROUGH THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Pastor: O Lord, open our eyes, our ears our minds, and our hearts,

People: that we might behold wondrous things out of your word.

CHORAL RESPONSE

'Thy Word'

No. 601 (Refrain only)

"Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path."

FIRST LESSON

Lamentations 1: 1-6

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

'Alleluia'

No. 186

"Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia"

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: and also with you.

Pastor: A reading from the Gospel of St. Luke.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Luke 17 5-10

*THE GOSPEL RESPONSE

Pastor: The Gospel of the Living Christ.

People: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*GLORIA PATRI

No. 70

CELEBRATION THROUGH PROCLAMATION

SERMON

'The Taste of Hope'

Pastor Russel Shuluga

SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

CELEBRATION THROUGH CONFESSION AND PARDON

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor: From the ends of the earth God has gathered us around Christ's Holy Table.

People: We come to feast with our brothers and sisters around the world.

Pastor: May God have mercy on His Church, troubled and divided.

People: May God renew us and make us one.

GENERAL CONFESSION

God of Grace, we grieve that the church which shares one Spirit, one faith, one hope, and one calling, has become a broken communion in a broken world. The one body spans all time, place, race, and language, but in our fear we have fled from and fought one another, and in our pride we have mistaken our part for the whole. Yet we marvel that you gather the pieces to do your work, that you bless us with joy, with growth, and with signs of unity. Forgive our sins as we commit ourselves to seeking and showing the unity of the body of Christ. In his name, Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: God, in Christ, breaks down the walls that makes us strangers to ourselves and divides us from one another. We are the body of Christ. Around this Table, we enact our faith and hope. The body broken is restored to wholeness; lifeblood poured out, brings healing to our world.

All: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF ASURANCE

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'

No. 140 V. 3

CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Fount of blessing, you pour upon us the abundance of your grace. Bless us and these gifts, that they may be a source of blessing to others, in the name Jesus Christ. Amen.

THE INVITATION

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 United Methodist Table. It's not an American Table. It's God's Table, for all of us, and it's a Table of grace. So come and take your place at the table. You are welcome, you are invited, you are called: come, let us share this meal together.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE SURSUM CORDA

It is pure delight to be in your presence, Lord. It is amazing to think of joining with Christians all over the world to celebrate the new life we all enjoy in Christ Jesus our Lord. You have made us one family. You have given us brothers and sisters and you love us all as your own and expect us to love one another as family. And so, as your family on earth, together with the members of your family in heaven, we join together and give to you our unending song of praise.

**Holy! Holy! Holy! One God Almighty!
 All your works shall praise your name
 In earth and sky and sea!
 Holy! Holy! Holy! Hosanna in the highest!
 Blessed is Christ who comes to set us free.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Pastor: Jesus took a loaf of bread and broke it saying, "This is my body broken for you."

People: May the one loaf symbolize our unity with Christians wherever they may be.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Take eat, in remembrance of me."

People: May there be room at the Table for all his followers. May we share in this sacrament together.

HYMN

'One Bread, One Body'

No. 620, Refrain

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
 one cup of blessing which we bless.
 And we though many throughout the earth,
 we are one boy in this one Lord.**

Pastor: Jesus took the cup and said, "This is the cup of the new covenant shed for you.

People: May we claim the covenant of love and forgiveness as we partake of the cup.

Pastor: Jesus said, "Drink this in remembrance of me."

People: May we remember Jesus' love for all as we share this sacrament with Christians around the world on this special day.

HYMN

'One Bread, One Body'

No. 620, Refrain

**One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
 one cup of blessing which we bless.
 And we though many throughout the earth,
 we are one boy in this one Lord.**

Pastor: And so in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and Thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us as we proclaim the Mystery of faith.

HYMN

'He is Lord'

No. 177

**He is Lord, he is Lord!
 He is risen from the dead and he is Lord.
 Every knee shall bow,
 Every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pastor: We come to this Table, knowing that God created us and loves us all.

People: We come to this Table, knowing Jesus died for us all.

Pastor: We come to this Table, knowing that God's Spirit sustains us all.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us, that we may know ourselves as children of holiness and light. Pour out your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, that they may become for us the light of your presence and the truth of your grace. Through the Holy Spirit make us brothers and sisters of holiness, and children of mercy and grace. Welcome us into your presence from every corner of the earth and unite us across space and time with the great cloud of witnesses, through your creative power and love, make us one in Christ's ministry, one creation, one family, begotten and beloved by you.

Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to your holy table, merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great mercy.

We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table, but only say the word and we shall be healed.

LAMB OF GOD (Agnus Dei)

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,
grant us your peace.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN

'O Lord, Your Tenderness'

TFWS No. 2143

O Lord, your tenderness, melting all my bitterness;

O Lord, I receive your love-

O Lord your loveliness, changing my unworthiness;

O Lord, I receive your love- O Lord, I receive your love; O Lord, I receive your love.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

'Give Thanks'

TFWS No. 2036

**Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
let the poor say, "I am rich,
because of what the Lord has done.
Give thanks!**

CELEBRATION THROUGH SENDING

*BENEDICTION

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. And as you go, May the Spirit of power and love attend you, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ uphold you, and may the great faithfulness of our God sustain you, now and forever. Amen



*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Danish Amen'
A-men, a-men, a – men.

No 898

*RECESSIONAL HYMN

'My Hope Is Built'

No. 368 V. 1 & 3

*POSTLUDE

WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD



Steven Akers – medical issues
Jennifer Skinner (Barbara’s friend) – diagnosed breast cancer
Beverly (Larry’s sister/Kim’s sister-in-law) - cancer treatments
Mifflin Avenue Church—passing of Chris and Richard
Those affected by the violence in our world
Don Donaldson (Ginnie’s Friend) - heart issues
Sandy Nelson - prayers needed
People of Ukraine & Afghanistan
Peacemakers
Barbara Thaw –continued prayers
Judy Spencer Baker - continued prayers
Aubri (Ginnie’s granddaughter) – diagnosed with breast cancer
Irene Chenot (Barbara's friend's mom) - cancer
Joe (Ginnie & Sue’s cousin) - diagnosed with myeloma cancer
Gary (Ginnie's son) - continued good health
Pastor Russel W. Shuluga
Bishop Cynthia Moore-Koikoi
Rev. Deborah Ackley-Killian — Pittsburgh District Superintendent
People in African nations—let there be enough food for them
Prayers that the violence will stop
Those who are traveling
Family & friends of those who have COVID
Family & friends of those who have passed away from COVID
Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church
Those in silence needing prayers
Western PA Conference