

**Mifflin Avenue United Methodist Church**  
**October 6, 2024**  
**20<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**World Communion Sunday**

*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

11:15 AM

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### CELEBRATION THROUGH CENTERING

PRELUDE

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

GATHERING WORDS (Why Is This Day Different)

### CELEBRATION THROUGH ADORATION

\*OPENING HYMN AND BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT

'Christ For the World We Sing'

No. 568

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Around the world people gather to break bread and pour wine.

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

Pastor: Around the world the broken body is made whole.

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

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

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

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

OPENING PRAYER

**We gather to worship, celebrating the boundless love of our Lord Jesus Christ, who shines as the radiance of God's glory. From the rising of the sun to its setting, we lift our voices in praise. God reigns over all the earth. We join with Christians from every corner of the globe. We unite in worship, giving thanks for the gift of Jesus by celebrating the bread and cup he shared. God, sustain us with your powerful word. Reflect your glorious being through your people. Amen.**

INTROIT

'All Glory, Laud, and Honor'

No. 280 V. 5

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

Hebrews 1: 1-4; 2: 5-12

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. Mark.  
**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

\*THE GOSPEL IS READ

Mark 10: 2-16

\*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

"All My Byself"

Pastor Russel Shuluga

**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

**Gracious Lord, you created the whole world and called it good, but we look out at your world and see division and suffering. You call us to maintain the unity of spirit in the bond of peace, but we choose division over diversity, confrontation over civility, conflict over peace born from justice. You call us to love the least of these among us, but we hear the cries of the oppressed and choose our own comfort. We allow senseless suffering rather than sacrifice for our neighbors. Forgive us. Grant us fresh vision to see one another as siblings in Christ. Rekindle in us your gifts — the spirit of power, love and self-discipline — that with faith in Christ, we might be made new and be part of bringing forth your peaceable kingdom. 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 ASSURANCE

'Victory in Jesus'

No. 370, V. 1

## SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

On this World Communion Sunday, we honor the One who created worlds and sustains all things through the divine Word. As we share signs of peace with one another, imagine the deep, creative love that extends through us, and by the power of the Holy Spirit—to siblings in every time and place.

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## CELEBRATION THROUGH COMMITMENT

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE LORD'S OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*DOXOLOGY

No. 95

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

**Mindful of people whose worlds are falling apart, we offer these gifts and our very lives for the repair of worlds, near and far, that need your care— in ways large and small. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY EUCHARIST

THE INVITATION

As we dwell in the beauty of our unity at the table with our sisters and brothers around the world, it is good to remember our brokenness. War, displacement, exile, economic crisis, natural disaster: all have been known for thousands of years, as they are today. At the table, we accompany the afflicted and seek comfort and renewal for ourselves, that we may be agents of the same to a world in need. All are welcome here.

HYMN

'We Come to This Table'

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

KREMSER 12.11.12.12 ("We Gather Together" No. 131)

***We come to this table, O God, with thanksgiving.  
We lift up our hearts, we remember, we pray.  
We hear Jesus' welcome — inviting, forgiving;  
We know your Spirit's peace as we feast here today.***

***We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,  
Diverse in our cultures, yet nourished as one.  
The bread and the cup that we share here with others  
Are gifts uniting all who are claimed by your Son.***

***We grieve for your world here; we cry, "How much longer?"  
We pray for the cycles of violence to cease.  
Yet here, in Christ broken, we're fed and made stronger  
To labor in his name for a world filled with peace.***

## 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 right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning, you created us from dust. You called us to live in your image and to be of one mind. Even when we grumbled and complained, and we argued and fought, you called us to unity and love. Even when we neglected your teachings and turned away from your call, you invited us back into your vineyard of mercy and grace. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one  
who comes in the name of God.  
Hosanna in the highest.*

## MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Holy are you and blessed is your beloved name. In the fullness of time, you sent Christ Jesus to call us anew to abundant life, compassionate love, and unity with you and your people. With encouragement and grace, Christ calls us now to join in unity with his followers around the world. May we be of one mind, live as one people, and love with the power of your grace. Through this amazing grace, we are invited to your table, welcomed in your love, and reclaimed as sisters and brothers of Christ. As children of your mercy and grace, we come with humble hearts and open minds, remembering how Jesus shared a feast of love, and how he invites us even now to share this feast of love with one another.

On that night before his death, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to the disciples, saying: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, and gave it to the disciples, saying: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my life in the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these, your life-giving acts of love and grace, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as children of your love, in union with Christ's love for us, and our love for one another, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

## PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the life and love of Christ, that we may be the body of Christ for the world, redeemed and unified by Christ's love and grace. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with one another, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at your heavenly banquet. Through Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forevermore. **Amen**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

## HYMN

We Come to This Table'  
KREMSER 12.11.12.12 ("We Gather Together" No. 131)

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

*We rise from this table with new dedication  
To feed the world's children, to free the oppressed,  
To clear out the minefields, to care for creation;  
We pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest.*

## 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

'O God of Every Nation'  
(Sung to the tune of 'Help Us Accept Each Other' No. 560)

No. 435 Vs. 1 & 4

### \*POSTLUDE

***WE TAKE THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD***