

October 2, 2022
 Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
 World Communion Sunday
 All music copied with CCLI#1528365
 CCLI Live Streaming License #20990115
 One License 733911-A

PRELUDE*(ANNOUNCEMENTS LATER IN WORSHIP)***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Pastor: Beloved People of God, come away from the rush and worry of the world to find nourishment for your souls. Christ invites us to his Table of Love to feast with Christians, near and far. We rejoice that there is one body, one Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

HYMN*One Bread, One Body¹***Bulletin, Page 5****PRAYER OF CONFESSION²**

All: Lord Jesus Christ, on the cross you let your body be broken and your blood be shed. So often when we celebrate Communion, we fail to remember our promise to follow you to the cross and the empty grave - to live humbly and sacrificially as well. Help us to live in ways that glorify you. Sometimes we simply go through the motions with the bread and cup. Other times we think your gift comes only to us, rather than people, everywhere. We might think we can't come to the table because we don't deserve your love. We might pretend we are such good people we don't need your grace. Today on Worldwide Communion Sunday, we pause to pray in silence, asking that you forgive us for our sins – those we commit knowingly and unknowingly, those we commit as individuals and those we commit in community...

SILENT PRAYER**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS³**

Pastor: Beloved of God, return to the Lord with joy and gladness. Sing a song of redemption. Let bitterness and sorrow be no more. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Great is God's faithfulness! Thanks be to God!

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Exodus 11-12 (Overview)**ANTHEM***Shall We Gather at the River***Chancel Choir****A SPECIAL TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH****GOSPEL READING – Luke 17:5-10**

1

² Hardwick, Chip. Confession. *A Pastor's Workshop*. <https://thepastorsworkshop.com/prayers-of-confession-on-communion/> Material accessed: September 7, 2022.

³ Bracken-Long, Kimberly. Assurance of Forgiveness, *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 1*, Westminster John Knox Press.

**SERMON & PASTORAL PRAYER
OFFERING INVITATION⁴**

Rev. Laura C. Baker

Liturgist: In communion with one another, let us share what we have received, knowing that we are one flesh with all humanity. We offer our gifts of time, talent, and financial resources to God reciting the prayer together which is printed in our bulletins...

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: *God of all creation, breathe your life-giving breath upon these gifts that they might be a blessing to all flesh. Amen.*

**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION⁵
INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

Pastor: Today we celebrate Worldwide Communion Sunday, remembering our Christian brothers and sisters around the world who also celebrate this feast. We remember that this is our Lord's Table, and all who seek Jesus are welcome.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Matzah is unleavened bread reminds us of all who eat their bread in haste. It symbolizes for us all the refugees who, like the ancient Israelites, leave their homes and flee from danger. May it remind us, too, of the homeless in our own city and country.

All: *We pray, O God, for your church among those with no place to call home. May we learn from their searching faith, and may we be a place of welcome for all who seek safety.*

Pastor: Frybread reminds us of Africa, the birthplace of humankind where Christianity continues to flourish. It also reminds us of a legacy of slavery, and of a people who endured.

All: *We pray, O God, for your church in places where it flourishes, and we confess the times and places when we have enslaved our brothers and sisters. May we learn from the vibrant faith of our African brothers and sisters, and may we build a more just and peaceable world.*

Pastor: Naan is a flatbread that has its roots in India, where Christians are a minority among Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus, and others. It represents for us the ways our faith calls us beyond our culture and reminds us of our brothers and sisters who are persecuted for their beliefs.

All: *We pray, O God, for your church in places where Christianity is dangerous, politically or socially. May we learn from the steadfast faith of our Asian brothers and sisters and walk with Jesus through every trial.*

Pastor: Tortillas remind us of Central and South America, where faith and culture have colored one another beautifully; but also, a place where Christians live with violence, drugs, and conflict as a daily reality.

All: *We pray, O God, for your church in places beset by violence and still colored by hope. May we learn from the persistent faith of our Latino brothers and Latina sisters, and may we look upon them with compassion as our neighbors.*

⁴ Taylor, Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf. Offering Prayer and Prayer of Dedication. "This at Last! An Intergenerational Liturgy for World Communion Sunday: Nineteenth Sunday of Pentecost." Copyright 2021, Faith INFO Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education.

⁵ Doss, Heather P. "BREAD FROM THE WORLD: WORLD COMMUNION LITURGY 09.27.2016" (Adapted by Pastor Laura Baker) //http://heatherprinceddoss.com/bread-from-the-world/. Material accessed September 7, 2022.

Pastor: The baguette reminds us of Europe, with its vast cathedrals that are often empty. It represents those who keep the faith alive in lean times and reminds us that the church is not a building, but a community of people.

All: *We pray, O God, for your church in places where its power is diminished, and its followers are few. May we learn from the age-old faith of our European brothers and sisters, and may we live our faith so that our faith might live.*

Pastor: Cornbread reminds us of Native Americans who first recognized God in the rhythms of nature. It reminds us that the land we call home once belonged to others.

All: *We pray, O God, for your church as it exists in every land. May we learn from the earthy faith of our Native American brothers and sisters, and may we care for the land, its creatures, and all those who call it home.*

BLESSING OF ELEMENTS

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit, dwell in these breads and in this cup that they might be for us the body and blood of Christ. Come, dwell in your people of every land and language that we might be united with one another to be the body of Christ in every corner of the world today. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor: Today, Christ-followers meet in public worship and secret gatherings to break bread together. Today, in wealthy churches and hovels of poverty, wine is shared. In many different languages, by ordained clergy and volunteer pastors, these words of institution are given:

All: On the night, when he was betrayed, our Lord, Jesus, gathered for supper with twelve of his closest friends, his disciples. He took the unleavened bread of the Passover feast, and when he had given thanks to God for it, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, *“This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”*

Pastor: In the same way after supper Jesus took the cup and gave it to his disciples, saying, *“This cup is the new covenant – a new relationship with God, marked by the forgiveness of your sins. Drink of it, all of you.”*

Pastor: And so today, every time we eat this bread and drink this cup, we remember our Lord’s death, and we hope for the day when he shall come again. These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

We will celebrate Communion by intinction with each kind of bread in a basket together. Please choose the type of bread you’d like – or maybe more than one! Eat the bread immediately upon receiving it. Then, please take the cup you prefer (WINE is RED; GRAPE JUICE is CLEAR) and drink immediately upon receiving it. Please come forward by way of the center aisle and return by way of the side aisle, if possible. If anyone needs Pastor Laura and an usher to come to you, please raise your hand or have a loved one notify an usher, and we will gladly come to your seat and serve you. Again, this is the Lord’s Supper, and all people are welcome to commune.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: *You have met us at the table, Lord Jesus, to unite us with you and with brothers and sisters around the world. Go with us now into that world, that we might be a living sign of welcome among refugees, of freedom among the oppressed, of hope amid persecution, of peace amid violence, of living faith amid a culture of skepticism, and of loving kindness toward the earth and all its inhabitants. We pray in the name of Jesus, even as we pray the prayer that he taught us: 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

HYMN*Lift High the Cross*⁶**Bulletin, Page 6****BENEDICTION**⁷

Pastor: The Banquet of God's love has been given to you.
 You have received blessing upon blessing.
 Go now into the world in which noise and confusion reign.
 Bring peace and hope in Christ's name to all you meet.
 God's peace and God's love be with you now and always.
All: *Amen!*

POSTLUDE

⁶ Kitchen, George W., Michael Robert Newbolt, Sydney Hugo Nicholson. CCLI Song #5169. Hope Publishing Company.

⁷ Townley, Nancy C. Benediction: Worship Connection: October 4, 2020. *Ministry Matters*. Material accessed: September 8., 2022. <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/1717/worship-connection-october-4-2020>

One Bread, One Body

Refrain

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,
 one cup of bless - ing which we bless. And
 we, though man-y, through-out the earth,
 we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

Verses

1. Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,
 2. Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,
 3. Grain for the fields, scat - tered and grown,

wom - an or man no more,
 one in the Lord of all.
 gath - ered to one for all.

D.C.

Text: 1 Corinthians 10:16; 17, 12-4, Galatians 3:28; the *Diáchoe* 9; John Foley, SJ, b.1939
 Tune: John Foley, SJ, b.1939
 © 1978, John B. Foley, SJ, and New Dawn Music. Published by OCP Publications.

Lift High the Cross

198

George William Kitchin (1827–1912)
Rev. by Michael Robert Newbolt, 1916; alt.

John 1:29–34; Rom. 5:6–11; 6:3–8; Rev. 7:9–17; 22:1–5

Refrain, in unison

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim; Let

all a - dore and praise that sa - cred name.

Last time, end

Stanzas, in harmony

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Sav - ior trod, the
2 Each new - born ser - vant of the Cru - ci - fied bears
3 O Christ, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree, your
4 Set up your throne, that earth's de - spair may cease, be -
5 So shall our song of tri - umph ev - er be: praise

Lamb vic - to - rious, Christ the Child of God.
on the brow the seal of Christ who died.
death has brought us life e - ter - nal - ly.
neath the shad - ow of its heal - ing peace.
to the Cru - ci - fied for vic - to - ry.

to Refrain