



First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood Online Worship
including the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – September 6, 2020

**To avoid contact, those attending in person should pick up communion elements from the trays in the back of the sanctuary upon arrival, take to their seats, and partake when directed during the sacrament.*

PRELUDE

THE WELCOME & SHARING OF CHURCH LIFE

TOLLING OF THE HOUR

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Jesus says,

"When two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here.

Calling us to the water, beckoning us to the feast,

Christ is here.

Speaking to our souls, listening to our prayers,

Christ is here.

Binding us as one body, sending us out in service,

Christ is here.

Jesus says,

"Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

Christ is here. Let us worship the Lord.

HYMN #409

"God is Here!"

1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.

- 2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.
- 3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here, as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.
- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive:
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Forgiving God,

You teach us to seek reconciliation with those who have wronged us;

For, above all else, we are to love one another.

But we let resentment smolder until anger flares,

Destroying any chance of peace.

We blame others and refuse to repent.

Grant us grace, we pray.

Make space in our wounded hearts for the possibility of forgiveness,

and teach us to turn toward others in love as you have turned toward us.

(silent confession)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE #582

"Glory to God"

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 7:14-25a

¹⁴ For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin.

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand.

²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?

²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

SERMON

"The Battle for Control..."

The Rev. Daniel B. Merry

HYMN #753

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

1 Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there is hatred, let me bring your love.

Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

2 Make me a channel of your peace.

Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

3 O, Master, grant that I may never seek

so much to be consoled as to console,

to be understood as to understand,

to be loved as to love with all my soul.

4 Make me a channel of your peace.

It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,

in giving of ourselves that we receive,

and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever.
Amen.**

CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

COMMUNION ANTHEM #521 "In Remembrance of Me"

1 In remembrance of me, eat this bread.
In remembrance of me, drink this wine.
In remembrance of me, pray for the time
when God's own will is done.

2 In remembrance of me, heal the sick.
In remembrance of me, feed the poor.
In remembrance of me, open the door
and let your neighbors in, let them in.

Bridge:

Take, eat, and be comforted;
drink and remember too,
that this is my body and precious blood
shed for you, shed for you.

3 In remembrance of me, search for truth.
In remembrance of me, always love.
In remembrance of me, don't look above,
but in your heart, look for God.
Do this in remembrance of me.

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

The God of heaven has made his home on earth,
Christ dwells among us and is one with us.
Highest in all creation, he lives among the least,
He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.
Come now all who hunger
And be filled with the bread of heaven.
Come now all who thirst,
And drink from the cup of salvation.
Come now all who seek
And be warmed by the fire of love.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, strong and faithful God.

All your works, the height and the depth,
echo the silent music of your praise.

In the beginning your Word summoned light,
night withdrew, and creation dawned.

As ages passed unseen,
waters gathered on the face of the earth and life appeared.

**When the times at last had ripened
and the earth grown full in abundance,
you created in your image man and woman,
the stewards of all creation.**

**You gave us breath and speech,
that all the living might find a voice to sing your praise,
and to celebrate the creation you call good.**

So now, with all the powers of heaven and earth,
we sing the ageless hymn of your glory:

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might. Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry, Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the Lord's name. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bles - sed is he who comes in the Lord's name. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

All holy God, how wonderful is the work of your hands!

When sin had scarred the world,

you entered into covenant to renew the whole creation.

As a mother tenderly gathers her children,

as a father joyfully welcomes his own,

you embraced a people as your own

and filled them with longing for a peace that would last

and for a justice that would never fail.

**Through countless generations
your people hungered for the bread of freedom.
From them you raised up Jesus, your Son,
the living bread, in whom ancient hungers are satisfied.**

He healed the sick,
though he himself would suffer;
he offered life to sinners,
though death would hunt him down.

But with a love stronger than death,
he opened wide his arms and surrendered his spirit.

Gracious God,
as we offer you our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving,
we commemorate Jesus, your Son. Death could not bind him,
for you raised him up in the Spirit of holiness
and exalted him as Lord of creation.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ wil come a - gain. _____
Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come ____ a - gain. _____

Eternal God,
let your Holy Spirit move in power over us
and over these earthly gifts of bread and wine,
that they may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ,
and that we may become one in him.

**May his coming in glory find us ever watchful in prayer,
strong in truth and love, and faithful in the breaking of the bread.
Then, at last, all peoples will be free,
all divisions healed, and with your whole creation,
we will sing your praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ.**

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, forever and ever.

A - men, A - men, ____ A - men, A - men, A - men.
A - men, A - men, ____ A - men, A - men. _____

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The sacrament of the Lord's Supper is shared.

You will be invited to eat the bread and drink the cup.

Those attending in person should pick up the elements upon arrival.

If watching from home, please prepare whatever bread and cup you have available.

CLOSING PRAYER (unison)

Loving God, we thank you that you have fed us in this Sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet in your eternal kingdom. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN #700

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

- 1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
- 4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participants in this worship service:

The Rev. Daniel B. Merry, pastor

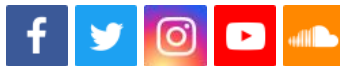
Shaun Cloonan, minister of music

Sunny Sakai, pianist

Elder John Foster, videographer

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This service may be found posted on our website at www.fpcedgewood.org, on our **YouTube channel**, or audio only on our SoundCloud channel at www.soundcloud.com/fpcedgewood



*Believing we are called together by God's love through Jesus Christ,
our mission as the First Presbyterian Church of Edgewood is to
love God, to love each other, and to love our neighbors.*

