



Riverside Congregational  
Church

November 7, 2021

*Communion Sunday*

# Call to Worship

**(based on Psalm 42)**

One: Our souls long for you, O God.

**Many: When shall we behold your face?**

One: Our souls are uneasy.

**Many: When shall hope lead us to praise you again?**

One: During the day, your steadfast love sustains us.

**Many: During the night, your song washes over us.**

One: Our hope leads us to praise you.

**All: We praise you, our song of hope.**

## Prayer of Invocation

**(based on Ruth 3-4, Psalm 127) - All**

**Lord, we come into your house as people seeking a heritage.**

**We need your provision in our lives, just as you provided for your daughter Ruth. A foreigner without status, you gave her a home, a family, and a heritage.**

**Your provision is enough; it is all we need. Bring us into your heritage and form us into your people, mighty God, restorer of our lives! Amen.**

*“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” (#347)*

Lord, you have come to the lakeshore  
looking neither for wealthy nor wise ones;  
you only asked me to follow humbly.

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me.  
By your side I will seek other seas.



*“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” (#347)*

You know so well my possessions;  
My boat carries no gold and no weapons;  
You will find there my nets and labor. [Refrain]

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me.  
By your side I will seek other seas.



*“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” (#347)*

You need my hands, full of caring,  
through my labors to give others rest  
and constant love that keeps on loving.

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me.  
By your side I will seek other seas.



*“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore” (#347)*

You, who have fished other oceans,  
ever longed for by souls who are waiting,  
my loving friend, as thus you call me:

O Lord, with your eyes you have searched me,  
and while smiling have spoken my name;  
now my boat's left on the shoreline behind me.  
By your side I will seek other seas.



## Prayer of Confession

Lord of all, the nations are yours. The poor are your treasured ones—widows, orphans, the aliens you protect. Your justice reigns over all.

Forgive us when our ways devour your beloved. We don't mean to cause harm, yet we do.

Forgive us when we consume more than our fair share, all the while knowing that our excesses deny the poor the things they need to live.

Forgive us for building bigger closets, and not clothing the naked.



## Prayer of Confession

Forgive us for vacationing in leisure, when multitudes long simply for rest.

Hear our prayer, Holy One. May your justice and grace reign forever. Amen.

Let us pray. *(Time for personal reflection and confession)*

All: Salvation belongs to you, O God. Forgive us our sin. Renew us, refresh us and help us rebuild our lives so that they are reflections of your love for all people. We pray in the name of the Lamb that was slain. Amen.

## Assurance of Pardon

Leader: We long to mend our ways. Christ can bear these sins for all who eagerly wait for him. His sacrifice on our behalf, his grace toward us, washes us anew..

**All:      Amen**

## Passing the Peace

One: Let us celebrate this mercy of God by greeting each other with a sign of Christ's peace. May the Peace of Christ be with you!

**Many: And also with you!**

## Mark 12:38-44

As he taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets! They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums.

## Mark 12:38-44

A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”



Sermon:

“How Much Is Enough?”

Rev. Bob Nolan

## **All Things Are Yours (#687)**

All things are yours! We make that true  
when we return our gifts to you.  
And so we give, and so we share,  
in Christ's strong name expressing care.

"Give out of love," your Word commands.  
We are your head, your heart, your hands.  
Your Word you underscore with deeds  
by using us to answer needs.



## **All Things Are Yours (#687)**

O what a joy to give and then,  
out of compassion, give again.  
You have no needs. Though that be true,  
the gifts we share are given to you.

All things are yours! We make that true  
when we return our gifts to you.  
And so we give, and so we share,  
in Christ's strong name expressing care.







Pastoral Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom and the power, and the glory;  
Forever and ever. Amen!

## Call To Offering

O Lord, you graciously pour out your blessings on us. Your gifts surround us. Despite our abundance, help us see the widow's gift,  
for we long to give as she did, gladly giving all she had.

All we have is a gift from your hand. Help us loosen our hands, giving to work of this church on your behalf, for in giving freely to you, we gain the opportunity to live abundant lives!

## **“Give Thanks” (#359)**

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 had done for us  
Give thanks!



# Dedication

Living God, we are your people, we carry your presence.

Use us and our gifts to accomplish your mission in the world. Multiply our effort to meet every need. This we pray in the name of Christ, whom with you and the Holy Spirit, reign in our hearts and lives, one God now and forever.

Amen.

## Communion

Pastor: Let us gather around the table with the offering of bread and drink upon it and the promise of the Living Christ among us. This is the welcome table of God where all who seek to be at peace with their neighbor and all who seek the mercy of God in Christ are embraced. Come, for we are invited in to this holy mystery. Come.

**People: We are ready!**

## Communion

Pastor: Jesus said: “I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger, and all who believe in me shall never be thirsty.

**People: We are hungry and thirsty. O Lamb of God, we come!**

## Communion

Pastor: We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took his authority as the Christ and offered the bread in thanksgiving and said . . .

**People:      “Take, eat. This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**



## Communion

Pastor: In the same way, and by the same authority,  
Jesus offered the cup in thanksgiving and said,

**People: “Take, drink. This is my blood of the new covenant which is poured out for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.”**

## Communion

Pastor: Come, Holy Spirit. Come. Open our eyes to the mystery of Christ's presence in these ordinary things in these our ordinary lives. May they be for us the very essence of the living Christ in our midst. Through the broken bread . . .

**People:                    We participate in the Body of Christ.**

Pastor:                    Through the cup of blessing . . .

**People:                    We participate in the new life Christ gives.**

## **“Great is Your Faithfulness”**

Great is your faithfulness, O God, Creator,  
with you no shadow of turning we see.  
You do not change, your compassions they fail not;  
all of your goodness forever will be.

Great is your faithfulness!  
Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!



## **“Great is Your Faithfulness”**

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above,  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
to your great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Great is your faithfulness!

Great is your faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!



## **“Great is Your Faithfulness”**

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring,  
your own dear presence to cheer and to guide.  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
blessings all mine with ten thousand beside.

Great is your faithfulness!  
Great is your faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed your hand has provided,  
Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!





## Benediction

*God be with you,*

*God be with you,*

*God be with you 'till we meet again*

*O---God be with you,*

*God be with you,*

*God be with you 'till we meet again*