

October 4, 2026 + 10:30 A.M.
Twentieth Sunday of Pentecost/World Communion Sunday

We Join in Worship

Liturgist: Carol Callaway

If you need extra space for a wheelchair or walker, or if you have young children with you, please feel free to make use of our Prayground, the extra space across the aisle from the sound booth.

PRELUDE *Jesus, Lord, We Look to Thee* Foundry Collection, 1742, arr. Cindy Berry

WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER FROM ZIMBABWE

(Rev. Lydia Neshangwe: Shona and English, adaptation of “A Non-Traditional Blessing” by Sister Ruth Fox)

Mwari wedu (Our God who is)
Musiki wedu (Our Creator God)
Nyadenga wedu (Our Heavenly Father)

Bless us with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths and superficial relationships. Bless us with anger at injustice, oppression and exploitation of people. Bless us with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war. Bless us with enough foolishness to believe that we can make a difference in this world.

Muzita raBaba,
nere Mwanakomana,
nere Mweya Mutsvene. (In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.) Amen.

CHORAL INTROIT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (By Rev. Gloria Ulloa, Presbyterian Church of Colombia)

Leader: We gather from the west to the east, from the south to the north, to celebrate the God of peace who accompanies us in our acts of peace.

ALL: This God of peace accompanies us in each and every circumstance around us. We praise God's name! Amen!

***OPENING HYMN:** “O God, by Your Mercy, We Come to This Place”

INVITATION TO CONFESSION (By Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student, Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East)

Faced with God's goodness we recognize our failings. In the knowledge of God's mercy, we dare tell the truth about ourselves and our world. In the confidence of God's children let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (By Jameel Maher Khadir, Near East School of Theology student, Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land)

Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity you have given us a world of abundance and diversity, yet we live guided by greed and selfishness. We confess that we have defaced your creation and poisoned our environment through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain. In Christ, you made us siblings and intended for us to be united, and yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different from us. You gave us wisdom and creativity and we have used those to trick each other and to develop weapons of destruction and death. You gave us laws to order our lives, and we have abused them to take revenge and punish our enemies. We love war rather than strive for peace. We ignore the poor and the weak and honor the rich and powerful. In all this we have not lived according to your will. Forgive us, Lord, for daring to boast in our human achievements and for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise. In your mercy, forgive us our sins. Amen.

KYRIE: Glory to God, No. 579 (unison)

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student, Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East)

Leader: God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ, through whom our sins were forgiven.
May he help us to continue to preach peace to those who are near and far.

ALL: Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

STATEMENT OF FAITH: (*The Apostles' Creed*)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

We Hear God's Word

EMBODIED WORD FOR DISCIPLES OF ALL AGES

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find wisdom, and in your will discover your peace. In the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord we pray. Amen.

HEBREW BIBLE LESSON: 2 Kings 2:1-11

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Corinthians 3:10-15

THIRD LESSON: Acts 2:1-4

SERMON: The Blaze of Glory

MUSICAL MEDITATION: *Bread of the World* Dennis Eliot

We Respond in Faith

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:

Leader: The Lord be with you.
ALL: And also with you.
Leader: Lift up your hearts.
ALL: We lift them to the Lord.
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Let us pray. It is right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, loving God, creator and sustainer of life. You planted the first fields — wheat, barley, rice, and maize — and made us in your image to care for your creation. You fed your people in the wilderness with manna from heaven, leading them to a land of milk and honey. When human greed trampled the poor you spoke through the prophets, calling us to worship you with justice and peace. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent Jesus Christ, the living bread, to lift up the oppressed and lowly and fill the hungry with good things. Therefore we praise you, joining the faithful who hunger and thirst for righteousness and singing the hymn of the whole creation:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, 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 the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

We praise you, most holy God, for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh. He taught us to share the abundance of your love, feeding the multitude, eating with sinners and strangers, offering his own body to save us, and pouring out his life for the world. When the risen Christ appeared to his disciples, he made himself known to them in the breaking of the bread. Even now he sets the table for us, inviting all to taste and see that you are good. Remembering all that you have done in Jesus Christ, we offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving as we share this feast of love and grace. Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, and one with all who share this meal, a great multitude from every nation. Keep us faithful to Christ's teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers, sharing our goods with one another, and giving our possessions to those who are in need, so that all people may have their daily bread, this day and every day. Just as the grain, once scattered across the hills, was gathered together in this loaf of bread, gather your people from the ends of the earth, so that we may feast with you in glory in the joy of your new creation. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen

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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING THE BREAD AND POURING THE CUP

Leader: The bread of heaven. The cup of the new covenant. The gifts of God for the people of God.

ALL: Let us keep the feast!

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

Song During Communion *One Bread, One Body* (530)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe, for you have satisfied our souls with this feast of your grace. Keep us faithful in your service until your realm of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION:

Leader: The World Communion Offering of the PC(USA) supports racial and gender justice, peacemaking efforts, global witness, and nurturing ecumenical and interfaith relations. With great thanksgiving and praise for the work of God throughout the world, let us offer our lives to the Lord. Please consider this special offering in addition to your weekly giving. If you are here in person, please place your offering in the plate as it is passed. If you are worshiping from home, please mail in your checks or use our online giving option on the website. Now let us practice stewardship as we listen to today's offertory.

OFFERTORY *Song of Faith*

Johann Kuhnau

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures high and low;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, in Jesus fully known;

Creator, Word, and Spirit one;

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (Unison)

Good and upright LORD, we offer these gifts as we offer our praise—in thanksgiving for the ways that you see us through the fires of our lives. Fill us with your Spirit as we use these gifts to spread your love. In your holy name we pray. Amen.

We Go into the World

***CLOSING HYMN:** "Ninte Hitham"

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

Henry Purcell, arr. Cindy Berry

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PEEK AT THE WEEK:

SUNDAY 10/4:	Adult Study – 9:00 AM Worship In Person & Online – 10:30 AM – Communion Hayride – Oak Ridge Prairie, Griffith 3-5 PM
MONDAY 10/5:	GA – 6:30 PM Al-Anon – 7:00 PM
TUESDAY 10/6:	Private Flute Lessons 2-8 PM (FH) Deacons – 6:30 PM AA – 7:30 PM
WEDNESDAY 10/7:	Private Flute Lessons 2-8 PM (FH) “Bring Your Own Bible” Bible Study 7-8 PM (Zoom) GA – 7:00 PM
THURSDAY 10/8:	Choir – 7:00 PM
SATURDAY 10/10:	Cook for Shelter – 1:00 PM AA – 6:30 PM

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **OUR ANNUAL BONFIRE AND HAYRIDE IS TODAY, OCTOBER 4TH** from 3-5 pm at Oak Ridge Prairie County Park in Griffith. All are invited and friends and family are welcome. The hayride starts promptly at 3 pm, and lasts almost an hour. Then we'll enjoy a bonfire including roasting hot dogs and marshmallows over the campfire, along with some fun activities and songs! Plenty of food, fellowship and fun for all!
- **PASTOR APPRECIATION SUNDAY - OCTOBER 11** Join us in worship and fellowship next Sunday as we show our appreciation and gratitude to Pastor Tyler for his ministry.
- **“BYOB”** (Bring Your Own Bible) discussion group meets on Wednesday evenings from 7-8 pm online using Zoom. Each week this group takes a look at the scriptures from our Sunday worship services, asking questions, bringing up different perspectives, and hopefully encountering the Holy Spirit in a fresh way. The link for the Zoom meetings is emailed out weekly. If you're not familiar with how to use Zoom, or to get on our e-mail list, please contact Pastor Tyler or Heather Casiano. All belong! You can join even if you have never done so before!
- **“THE BIBLE IN TODAY’S WORLD”** study class meets on Sunday mornings from 9-10 am at the church. We are excited to be using the study guide *United through Christ, Bound to Each Other: Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians*. If you have any questions, contact Heather Casiano. All are welcome! You can join even if you have never done so before!
- **FELLOWSHIP HOSTING IN THE FALL** We are asking folks to sign up to host fellowship time in the Fall. Hosting entails bringing a simple snack to share, setting it out, and cleaning up afterwards. On Sundays with no sign-ups, we will still have coffee and tea to enjoy.
- **CHOIR PRACTICE IS THURSDAYS AT 7PM** We need singers of all sorts and welcome singers of all skill levels! We have a great time, and singing is a great way to give glory to God!
- **FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** If you don't already follow us on Facebook and Instagram, please start doing so @firstpchighland on both Facebook and Instagram.
- **INTERESTED IN BECOMING A MEMBER OF FPCH?** You are always welcome here, whether a member or not! If you are interested in joining as a member, though, we would love to have you! Please talk to Pastor Tyler if you would like to learn more.

Opportunities to serve as the HEART, HANDS, and FEET of Jesus Christ:

- **BLESSING BOX** Please continue to place items in the Blessing Box and take items if you are a person in need! Items most commonly donated: Canned goods with pull tabs, socks, toilet paper, non-perishable foods, small snacks, toiletries, baby wipes and diapers. Please check expiration dates!
- **HELP STOCK OUR PANTRY!** Please bring non-perishable foods to help the church's food pantry.
- **GOT SNEAKERS?** The sneakers that we all collect will help raise money to support our church's general fund AND will help our environment by keeping sneakers out of landfills. Bring the sneakers (athletic shoes only) to the church and put them in one of the blue bins by Door D or in the narthex.

Prayer List

Anthony
Brady Vanes
George Griner
Guy Hendricks
David Markley
David Kingen
Diana and Ray Mendoza
Janet Orem
Cindy Waltz and Sister
Yvonne Suroviak
Georgette and Garry Sknerski
Jakob Holden
Denise Matthys
Florance Cody
Kathy & Chuck Pumnea
The Windstrups
Rick Parker
Gary Everhart
Darlene O'Brien
Doug & Sue Matthews
Janet Terpstra
Glen Nahler
Tom
David Hamblin
Jana Tolley
Larry & Bonnie Perryman

Delta Rose
Winnie Owen
Breeanne
Mom Bechtler
Marian Clayton
Ella P
Rita Stronczek
Keren, Zuriel, and Gedeon
Edna Cruz
Charlie
Jerry & Rena Martinez
Tyler Gall
Luana Sulkowski
Sonny Buono
Tammy
Mike Kelly
Sue Heth
Oscar Ochoa
Jean and Clara
Dave Shelborne
Kali Rosalia
Wendy
Jessica S
Shirley McKnight
Renee Williams
Kay Johnson

2 Kings 2:1-11

2 Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ² Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. ³ The company of prophets who were in Bethel came out to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent." ⁴ Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, for the Lord has sent me to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they came to Jericho. ⁵ The company of prophets who were at Jericho drew near to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that today the Lord will take your master away from you?" And he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent." ⁶ Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷ Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸ Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground. ⁹ When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰ He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." ¹¹ As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.

1 Corinthians 3:10-15

¹⁰ According to the grace of God given to me, like a wise master builder I laid a foundation, and someone else is building on it. Let each builder choose with care how to build on it. ¹¹ For no one can lay any foundation other than the one that has been laid; that foundation is Jesus Christ. ¹² Now if anyone builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, straw— ¹³ the work of each builder will become visible, for the day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each has done. ¹⁴ If the work that someone has built on the foundation survives, the builder will receive a wage. ¹⁵ If the work is burned up, the builder will suffer loss; the builder will be saved, but only as through fire.

Acts 2:1-4

² When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

The Blaze of Glory

2 Kings 2:1-11; 1 Corinthians 3:10-15; Acts 2:1-4

The burning bush bonfire where Moses stood upon holy ground. The towering pillar of fire that led the Hebrews to liberation from slavery in Egypt. The mountain-consuming fire from which a voice thundered and a law was gifted to a covenant people. The fiery furnace where not even a hair or piece of cloth was singed and where three became four. One calling out in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism with Holy Spirit and fire. And now a chariot of fire and horses of fire carrying a prophet to heaven in a whirlwind. And tongues of fire resting upon disciples newly filled with the Holy Spirit. Oh the places we've gone and the wonders we've witnessed upon this fiery journey!

Fire is an ephemeral, fleeting phenomenon, fizzling out once it has consumed all of its kindling. What we have been encountering, though, is the truly eternal flame—God's Holy Spirit! As I re-read the story of Elijah's ascent upon the chariot of fire, it came to me that it is fitting to call the eternal flame "the blaze of glory!" We use that term to describe ending something in a brilliant, dramatic, memorable way—going out in a blaze of glory. What better way is there to illustrate Elijah's final moments on earth? After living a life of extraordinary service to God, replete with an extraordinary amount of struggle, this most extraordinary of the Hebrew prophets went out in a literal blaze of glory! The eternal flame appeared in the form of horses and a chariot to pick him up and then carried him into heaven via a whirlwind expressway. Like Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, he was not burned by this fire. Rather, like the Hebrews of old, he was liberated by it. This fire was a conveyance to heaven, a connection between the divine and the human, between the Creator and the created. Oh yes, a blaze of glory indeed!

In truth, that's how the fire functioned in all of the stories we have explored. The fire was God's way of connecting to creation, of connecting to us created beings. God consecrated the ground through the fire. God made a way where there seemed to be no way with the fire. God spoke from the fire. God joined people in the fire and saved them from the fire. The blaze of glory was glorious because it was a way of directly encountering God. And that brings us back to Pentecost, this season that we have been celebrating with intention over the past several months, when the blaze of glory settled upon the disciples gathered in Jerusalem as the Holy Spirit filled them.

What better day is there to revisit the story and celebration of Pentecost than World Communion Sunday?! What better day is there to be reminded that the Church was born as a multiracial, multi-ethnic, multi-lingual, multi-gendered, multicultural community of people gathered together to encounter God?! Let us remember as we read once more the words recorded in the book of *Acts*:

Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power."

The eternal flame, the tongues of fire, rested upon the disciples, and they were not burned. Rather, they were filled with the Holy Spirit and received the remarkable gift of being able to speak in a way that was understood by all of these different people from all of these different places with all of these different languages. Oh yes, the blaze of glory was there connecting them to God and connecting them to each other! And as more and more people joined them because of this remarkable connection, they formed a beloved community. Let us be reminded of just how exactly that beloved community thrived. Again, as recorded in the book of *Acts*:

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread from house to house and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

They shared their resources in common through an equitable process—distributing resources according to need rather than hoarding resources based on possession or position. They worshiped together in the temple. And they went to each other's homes to break bread and eat together with glad and generous hearts. Aha! Again, what better day is there to revisit the story and celebration of Pentecost than World Communion Sunday?! People of every race, every ethnicity, every language, every gender, and every culture joining together to share resources, worship God, break bread, and eat! Now *that* sounds like the Church for real for real! Or, at least that sounds like what the Church is meant to be! And World Communion Sunday is an opportunity, an invitation to remember our roots and to grow from them once more or, as Paul frames it in his first letter to the Corinthians, to remember our shared foundation and to build upon it once more. The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord, and of course Paul uses fire to talk about testing that foundation! But I digress. Let's get back to the blaze of glory that rested upon the disciples as they were filled with God's Holy Spirit.

I like to think of those tongues of fire as dancing above the disciples. For, what a joyful event this must have been! God's Spirit was alive in them! It was not a matter of needing a chariot to carry them to the heavenly realm in order to encounter God. God was encountering them right then and there, as they were. The Spirit of the living God was entering into their very selves and, in doing so, connecting them in their most profound way to each other across all of the identify factors that tend to divide us. The blaze of glory dancing above them was a symbol of the Spirit that bound them together—the same Spirit that had animated the life and love of our Lord Jesus Christ of Nazareth! Ah yes, what a joyful event indeed!

Loved ones, when I think about World Communion Sunday and all that it represents, joy is the overwhelming emotion! God's Holy Spirit is alive within us, and God's Holy Spirit is alive within our siblings of every race, ethnicity, language, gender, and culture across God's blessed Creation! We are all bound together! Our thriving is collective, with all of us dependent upon each other to share generously and equitably. Our liberation is communal, with none of us being truly free until all of us are truly free. Our worship is common, shared, with our prayers and songs and acts of service gaining exponential momentum in giving God glory across the globe. This is the blaze of glory! Overwhelming joy indeed!

And all of it, of course, comes together at the table. It is over meals that the most authentic communities are formed. The best way to make someone know that they belong is by inviting them to the table. The best way to get to know someone else is by joining them at their table. It is there at the table that dividing walls come tumbling down. It is there at the table that we are reminded that we are all simply human and thus that we are all

profoundly beloved by the God whose Holy Spirit fills us. It is there at the table that we can communicate in ways that transcend our different languages. It is there at the table that we all have equitable access.

In *Acts*, the beloved community traveled around from house to house to break bread and eat, thus each getting a taste of each other's hospitality. I wish that we could all travel the world today and go from house to house and get a taste of the hospitality that blesses tables everywhere. I wish people from all over the world could come to this beloved house of worship and get a taste of our hospitality! If we all could meet at each other's tables, we would be transformed! The world would be transformed! All the hatred and violence would go up in smoke, and our shared joy would go up as a blaze of glory!

Since we do not yet have the superpower of teleportation, though, perhaps we can start by being intentional with embracing diversity and difference here and now. We can choose the tables that unite us instead of the walls that divide us! We can choose to educate ourselves, to learn about and to learn from ways of being the Church in different contexts. We can practice hospitality in a way that makes people to know that they truly belong here in the fullness of who they are. We can make sure that our table is indeed one with equitable access, where all are fed and all are loved. We can look at everybody we encounter and choose to see the blaze of glory dancing upon them—for the Spirit of the living God is within them just as the Spirit of the living God is within you just as the Spirit of the living God is within me! Amen!

O God, by Your Mercy, We Come to This Place

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2026

St. Denio

arr. Caniadau y Cyssegr, 1839

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is primarily in the Soprano and Alto parts, with the Tenor and Bass parts providing harmonic support. The lyrics are arranged in five systems, each corresponding to a line of music. The first system contains five numbered verses. The subsequent systems contain the main body of the hymn, with the final system concluding with a double bar line.

1. O God, by your mer - cy we come to this place.
2. O Christ, we're not stran - gers or en - e - mies here.
3. Lord, we look a - round and see hate ev - ery - where.
4. Through mis - sions and meet - ings where jus - tice is shown,
5. O Spi - rit, we pray that you'll move through the church,

We feast at your ta - ble on gifts of your grace.
For we're at your ta - ble, and you've made it clear:
Yet, you've shown us grace! It's a gift we're to share.
through co - ops where farm - ers learn they're not a - lone,
till peace, love and u - ni - ty cov - er the earth.

We taste your for - give - ness, then learn what to do:
We all are God's chil - dren, and blessed from a - bove,
May we share this grace till your bless - ings in - crease
through YAVs who are will - ing to try some - thing new,
O God, bless these gifts with your grace from a - bove,

"Do jus - tice, love kind - ness, walk hum - bly" with you.
we're glo - bal, con - nect - ed, and shaped by your love.
through jus - tice and di - a - logue, kind - ness and peace.
God, make us good part - ners in work - ing with you.
till oth - ers find joy in the feast of your love.

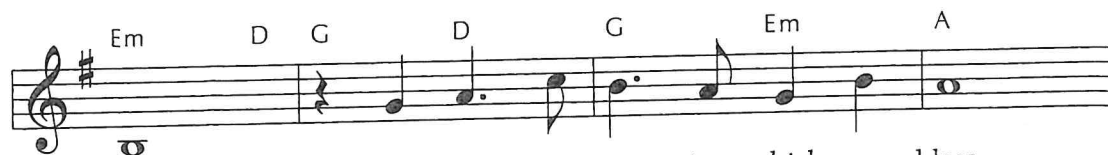
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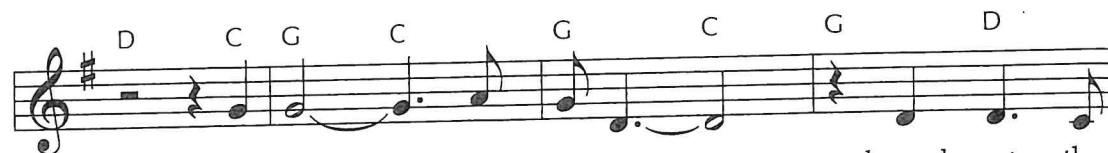
Refrain



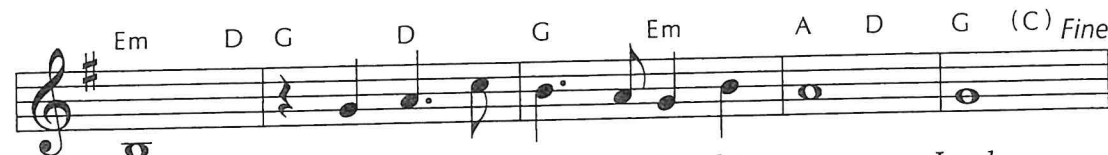
One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of



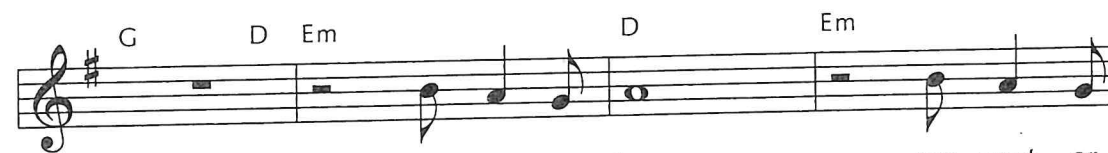
all, one cup of bless - ing which we bless.



And we, though man-y, through-out the



earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew,
2 Man - y the gifts,
3 Grain for the fields,

ser - vant or
man - y the
scat - tered and



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

to Refrain

Ninte Hitham

Traditional Malayalam hymn, translation and melody line by Sarah Jones and Cynthia Anderson-Bauer

Oh God of all, guide me each day. With your strong
 I do not ask for wealth or fame; for plea - sure
 Though my life's path be long or brief or filled with
 I've not the wis - dom, God, to know what's right and

hand show me the way. Oh not my will but yours be
 or life free from pain. I on - ly seek to know your
 joy, suf - fring or grief. What - e'er may come, God, help me
 true, which way to go. So in your name, great God, I

done. Let my de - sires with yours be one.
 will, your hopes for me I shall ful - fill.
 see your bless - ings in this life for me.
 pray. Steer me ev - er in right - eous ways.

Nin - te hi - tham pol-eye en - ne Ni - tham na - da - thi - de - na - me.
 Nin-tay hee - dom pole-ay en - nay nee - tyam na - da tee-day-na - may.



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

The World Communion Offering works to ensure all God's people flourish as God intends through ministries working for racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations.

Thank you for your participation in the World Communion Offering.

IF WE ALL DO A LITTLE, IT ADDS UP TO A LOT!

WAYS TO GIVE —

- ✦ Through your congregation
- ✦ Donate by credit card online at pcusa.org/give/wco
- ✦ Text GIVEWCO to 41444 or scan this QR code



—or—

You can help sustain these important ministries that are supported by the World Communion Offering by making an online gift at any time throughout the year. Checks may be sent to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.); P.O. Box 643700; Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700.



The World Communion Offering is one of three annual Special Offerings. The Churchwide Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (USA) play an important role in defining what it means to be a congregational church, bringing together the diversity of the PC(USA) to focus and take faith-based action on shared concerns. The Offerings offer opportunities for partnership, learning, and witness and profoundly affect the life of the church as a collective witness to Jesus Christ's love for the whole church.

To learn more about how your gift to World Communion Offering makes a difference, visit pcusa.org/wco.

*What does the Lord require of you, but to do justice,
...to love kindness
and to walk humbly with your God.*

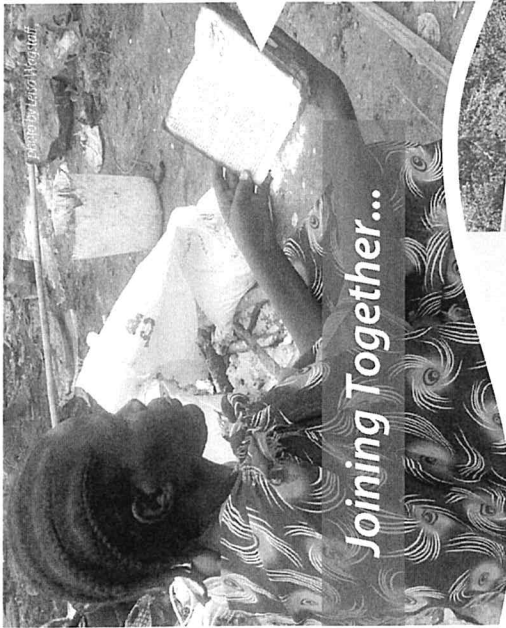
Micah 6:8



Reconciling
God's people
at the Table of
Grace through
ministries of
justice.



WORLD COMMUNION
OFFERING



Joining Together...

As a Young Adult Volunteer with the PC(USA)'s Office of Public Witness, Phille Dlamini's social media series focused on Sudan has helped connect Presbyterians to a global crisis by linking faith, advocacy, and international solidarity through faithful storytelling that calls the church into awareness and action alongside global partners.

Supported by a grant from the PC(USA), the Gullah Farmers' Cooperative Association helps farmers who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color with limited resources to come together to secure markets for their products and to get paid fair prices, as well as provide the community with fresh, nutritional foods, including healthy meals for schoolchildren.



...Making a Difference

The Al Amana Centre in Oman, a partner of the PC(USA), is one of the few Christian-led organizations in the region working toward reconciliation and sustainable peace through safe, immersive, interfaith experiences. The Centre's facilitated discussions bridge the gap between people of different beliefs and help participants gain deeper insights into themselves.



Our gifts make a difference in answering the prophets' call to love kindness.

The prophet Micah's charge to "love kindness" is uniquely embodied when people around the world join together around Christ's Table of grace.

The prophet calls us to recognize the inherent worth of every person, to practice welcome, and to make room at the table for all God's children. This is expressed in action, often involving mercy, faithfulness and steadfast commitment.

Experience the grace that comes from reconciling all peoples from all nations around the corner and around the globe through the ministry of this Offering.

Feast joyfully, give generously. The table is set, and all are invited!



Please give generously.
If we all do a little, it adds up to a lot!