



WELCOME TO WORSHIP

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY: OCTOBER 1, 2023

PRELUDE

“Linstead” (John A Behnke)
Jamaican Folk Tune

INTROIT

“O, Sing to the Lord” (#15 vs.1,2,3)
Brazil/Spanish text

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CALL TO WORSHIP

Australia

Leader: Gathering God, joined as one family we come to worship you today,

All: mindful of the breathing of the life that you have called into being across countries and climates; all creatures and all creeds.

Leader: Jesus, teacher friend, today you call us to your table and invite us to feed on you, so that we might then feed others.

All: Let our hunger for justice and our desire for peace never be exhausted until all your children are safe and fed.

Leader: Life-giving Spirit, let the words that reach our open ears and your movement in our souls in this time together bless, comfort and disturb us.

All: So that the work of your servants here may be directed along the right paths for the sake of the world,

Leader: And all the people say:

All: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“In Christ There is No East or West”
African-American spiritual tune

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Czech Republic

Holy Spirit, grant us openness and give us understanding of what each one of us needs to receive through Holy Scripture. When we are facing a difficult choice between the easy and the right decision, help us to choose the narrow path. We also pray for all who are about to set on an adventurous journey of faith anywhere in the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Galatians 5:1 & 13-18
read in English, Mandarin and Croatian

SONG OF RESPONSE

“Gracious Spirit, Heed of Pleading”
Tanzania

MESSAGE

Living in Forgiveness: “Love is Superior”

STATEMENT OF FAITH

South Africa, adapted from the Belhar Confession

We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the unity of the communion of saints of the entire human family. And we believe that that this unity of the people of God must be manifest and active, in that we love one another; that we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another, that we all share one baptism together, that we eat of one bread and drink of one cup together, that we confess one name, one Lord, for one cause, with one hope, which is the height and the breadth and the depth and the love of Christ, forever and ever. Amen.

OFFERING & MUSICAL OFFERING

“Abana (Our Father)” (Laila Constantine)
Lebanon

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

United States

God of Grace, we grieve that the church which shares one Spirit, one faith, one hope, and one calling, has become a broken communion in a broken world. The one body spans all time, place, race, and language, but in our fear we have fled from and fought one another, and in our pride we have mistaken our part for the whole. Yet we marvel that you gather the pieces to do your work, that you bless us with joy, with growth, and with signs of unity. Forgive our sins as we commit ourselves to seeking and showing the unity of the body of Christ. In his name, Amen.

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

spoken in English and Arabic

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

“The Rice of Life” Taiwan
“Come to the Table” Korea
“Great of Life from Heaven” Argentina

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Australia

We have been fed with the bread of life, the life of Christ: let this holy food sustain us through our earthly pilgrimage until we come to that place where hunger and thirst are no more; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“This is My Song”
Finland

BENEDICTION

Ireland

POSTLUDE

“Postlude on Festal Song” (Gordon Young)

Preaching Pastor
Associate Pastor
Director of Worship
Director of Media
Organist/Accompanist
Audio
Lighting
Slides

Geoff Kohler
Mofid Wasef
Elizabeth Virkler
Luke Graham
Ronel Wishnuf
Riley McKenna
Aidan Williams
Jim Prutow

Streaming
Band

Lee & Berdi Meehan
Joey Carano
Pete Harrison
Nathan Hubbard
Chancel Choir
Tony Cook
Sharon Maruo
Tanja Villwock

Ensemble
Scripture Readers