



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church

October 6, 2019 – World Communion Sunday

+Stand as you are able

Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold

Preparing Ourselves

Prelude

Welcome

+Call to Worship

L: In cities like Charlotte and Tulsa, where lives are lost and voices are not heard,

P: We call to mind that faith which is passed on to us, that justice will speak out for all people.

L: In cities like Aleppo and New York, where explosions destroy families and scatter neighbors,

P: We call to mind that hope which is passed on to us, that peace and reconciliation will rebuild communities.

O: In neighborhoods not known, in places never mentioned, where bitter tears are shed and the lonely walk the streets,

P: We call to mind that love which we can pass on to those forgotten by the world, including us.

Opening Prayer

It is not in the hollowness of our fears, but there in the depths of your heart, Singer of Songs, that the notes are written that can reshape our lives, that the melody of hope is composed. Seed Planter, you only did what you ought to have done: traveling our lonely cities, listening to the weeping of parents; reaching out to share our burdens. You enter our hearts to heal them, Spirit of love; you enter our fears to open us to possibilities; you enter our communities to create families; you empty yourself, so we may share the good treasure of hope with all God in Community, Holy in One, we lift our prayers to you. Amen.

Hymn *I Come with Joy* (verses 1-2) #507

Call to Confession

Faith, hope, love have all been passed on to us, not so we can hoard these gifts for ourselves, but so we might share them with others. Let us lift our prayers to the One who is always ready to place forgiveness in our hearts, as we tell how we have not done this in our lives.

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness

We think if we turn off the media, we will not need to listen to the voices of our neighbors, God of all the world. We are blessed with family and friends, and so do not know the lonely. We are at ease in a world which is troubled, and so do not notice the bitter tears of others. Because we are people of affluence and privilege, we cannot understand those who are broken by the anger and brutality of the world.

Words of Assurance

L: Call this to mind: God is ever faithful; hope is the gift passed on to us, love is the gift we can share with others; God's mercies never come to an end.

P: Great is God's faithfulness to all people, in all places. Thanks be to God, who has given us the promise of life in Christ Jesus our Lord! Amen.

+Passing of the Peace

Special Music

Hearing the Word

Prayer for Illumination

God our helper, by your Holy Spirit, open our minds, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may be led into your truth and taught your will, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Children's Time

Scripture Reading: Lamentations 1:1-6 ¹ How lonely sits the city that once was full of people! How like a widow she has become, she that was great among the nations! She that was a princess among the provinces has become a vassal. ² She weeps bitterly in the night, with tears on her cheeks; among all her lovers she has no one to comfort her; all her friends have dealt treacherously with her, they have become her enemies. ³ Judah has gone into exile with suffering and hard servitude; she lives now among the nations, and finds no resting place; her pursuers have all overtaken her in the midst of her distress. ⁴ The roads to Zion mourn, for no one comes to the festivals; all her gates are desolate, her priests groan; her young girls grieve, and her lot is bitter. ⁵ Her foes have become the masters, her enemies prosper, because the Lord has made her suffer for the multitude of her transgressions; her children have gone away, captives before the foe. ⁶ From daughter Zion has departed all her majesty. Her princes have become like stags that find no pasture; they fled without strength before the pursuer.

Gospel Reading: Luke 17:5-10 ⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. ⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Sermon Rev. Jacquelyn Pinkowski

Responding to the Word

Affirmation of Faith

(taken from the Confession of 1967 - 2. The Sin of Man)

The reconciling act of God in Jesus Christ exposes the evil in men as sin in the sight of God. In sin men claim mastery of their own lives, turn against God and their fellow men, and become exploiters and despoilers of the world. They lose their humanity in futile striving and are left in rebellion, despair, and isolation. Wise and virtuous men through the ages have sought the highest good in devotion to freedom, justice, peace, truth, and beauty. Yet all human virtue, when seen in the light of God's love in Jesus Christ, is found to be infected by

self-interest and hostility. All men, good and bad alike, are in the wrong before God and helpless without his forgiveness. Thus all men fall under God's judgment. No one is more subject to that judgment than the man who assumes that he is guiltless before God or morally superior to others. God's love never changes. Against all who oppose him, God expresses his love in wrath. In the same love God took on himself judgment and shameful death in Jesus Christ, to bring men to repentance and new life.

Hymn *I Come with Joy* (verses 3-4) #507

Offering

We are here, because of those who passed on their faith to us. We are generous, because God has blessed us with gifts beyond imagination. We would pass on these gifts, as well as hope and love, as we offer them to our God, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

L: May God be with you.

P: And also with you.

L: People of God, lift up your hearts.

P: We lift them to the One who cradles our hearts in loving hands.

L: People of God, let us give thanks to the God who sets a Table for us.

P: We praise the Lord our God who welcomes us with open arms.

L: How lonely was chaos, Gardener of the Universe...

Therefore we join our voices, as we sing of your mercies made fresh in every moment

God of Creation, Lord of all beauty,

All creatures join in singing your love;

Holy Compassion, Joy of our mornings,

Fill us with grace which comes from above...

As we remember his grace and love, as we dare not forget his sacrifice for us, we sing of that mystery we call faith:

Christ of the outcast, Comfort of mourners,

Neighbor to strangers, Love without end;

Bearer of burdens, Grace ever with us,

Blessing our children, Brother and Friend...

God in Community, Holy in One, all honor and glory are yours, as we sing our praises through all eternity:

Spirit of kindness, Breath of forgiveness,

Faithful Companion, just as Christ said;

God's little children gathered together,

Drink of salvation, feast on your Bread...

As the people of God, we join our voices together in the prayer you taught us:

Our Father who art in heaven...

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. You have fed us with the bread of life, and renewed us for your service. Help us who have shared Christ's body and received his cup, to be his faithful disciples so that our daily living may be part of the life of your kingdom, and our love be your love reaching out into the life of the world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn *God of Grace and God of Glory* #420

+Charge and Benediction

+Postlude

Announcements for the Week of October 6, 2019

Upcoming Events:

10/9, 10/16, 10/23:

Choir Rehearsal

10/13*, 10/20, 10/27:

Worship Service

*Offsite Service

10/16: CLASP FUNd-

Raiser

The Scriptures

for Sunday, October 13

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalms 66:1-12

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

Offsite Second Sunday: Our next offsite service will be held Oct. 13 at the Hellmann Creative Center (Center for Great Neighborhoods), 314 12th St. in Covington. Please plan to join us for a time of worship in this lovely space.

Peace & Global Witness offering: Today is the last day to donate to the Peace & Global Witness special offering. A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

Giving Sunday: "Stewardship 2019-2020: Growing Together - Moving into the Future" will be kicking off soon. Giving Sunday will take place on November 10. More details to come.

Save the Date - CLASP Carrabba's Fall FUNd- Raiser: On Wed., Oct. 16, Carrabba's restaurant in Crestview Hills will sponsor a FUNd-raiser on behalf of CLASP. For everyone who brings a CLASP coupon to the restaurant that day, Carrabba's will donate 20% of the purchase price to CLASP. Coupons will be available soon in the bulletin, and on the COF website and Facebook page.

Happy Birthday, Jean Jennings! Celebrate Jean's 80th Birthday on Saturday, October 26, 2019 from 3:00pm until 7:00pm. The party will take place at the Edgewood Senior Center (550 Freedom Park Drive, Crestview Hills, KY 41017). RSVP by October 19 to Terri Brown (859-341-5814 or darlenej934@gmail.com).

In Our Thoughts and Prayers: Nancy Ziegler, Betty Murphy, Shirley Weigel, Ruth Roeber, The McDermott Family, Johanna Willis, Nita Kleier, Inky Hall, David Weitzel, Joanna Bailey, Jean Jennings' Family, Emille Walden, Deborah Grover, Kelly Montana, Margaret Meyer, Lynda Jaeger, Floyd Hastings, Sandi Brown, and Kittie Dupps.