



GRACE COVENANT

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Service of Worship October 4, 2026 9:30am
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

*The prelude, the first act of worship, sets the tone for what is to follow.
So, we invite you as worshipers to gather, to transition from your busy lives
into a sacred place of communion with God and with each other. – Dr. Kimo Smith, adapted*

SONG TO GATHER

“God So Loved”
ALL

by Ed Cash, Franni Cash, Martin Cash,
Scott Cash, Andrew Bergthold

Come all you weary, come all you thirsty. Come to the well that never runs dry.

Drink of the water, come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, come find his mercy. Come to the table; He will satisfy.

Taste of his goodness, find what you're looking for.

For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only son to save us.

Whoever believes in him will live forever.

**Bring all your failure, bring your addictions. Come lay them down at the foot of the
cross.**

Jesus is waiting there with open arms.

For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only son to save us.

Whoever believes in him will live forever.

The pow'r of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.

For God so loved, God so loved the world.

**Praise God, praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise him, praise him for the wonders of his love. (2X)**

**For God so loved the world that he gave us his one and only son to save us.
Whoever believes in him will live forever.
The pow'r of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom.
For God so loved, God so loved the world.**

**Bring all your failure, bring your addictions.
Come lay them down at the foot of the cross.
Jesus is waiting ~ God so loved the world.**

In worship following reflective music, we are requesting a response of quiet or a contemplative "amen." Any music that elicits a response of applause is to the glory of God.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen Wright

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: From every nation, every language, and every corner of the earth, God calls us together.

ALL: The Spirit gathers us in.

ONE: From our different stories, traditions, and experiences, God creates one beloved community.

ALL: The Spirit gathers us in.

ONE: The earth is full of God's goodness, and every living thing depends upon God's generous care.

ALL: We come with gratitude for the gifts of creation and the abundance of God's love.

ONE: Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control are the fruits of the Spirit.

ALL: May the Spirit grow these gifts among us and through us. Let us worship the God who gathers us, nourishes us, and sends us forth as one body.

***SONG TO PRAISE 526**

"Let us Talents and Tongues Employ"

526 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a
 2 Christ is a - ble to make us one; at the ta - ble he
 3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a

shout of joy: bread is bro - ken; the wine is poured;
 sets the tone, teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless,
 world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share:

Refrain
 Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
 love in word and in deed ex - press. Je - sus lives a - gain;
 God (Im - man - u - el) ev - ery - where!

earth can breathe a - gain; pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

CALL TO CONFESSION

Emily Nelson Dixon

At Pentecost, the Spirit crossed every boundary of language and culture, drawing strangers into a shared experience of God's grace. Yet we confess that we often allow differences to divide us. We cling to what is familiar, overlook the gifts of others, and forget that all we have is received from God's abundance. Trusting in the Spirit who gathers and renews us, let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Unison*)

Gracious and generous God, You breathed life into creation and poured out your Spirit upon your people. You gather us from every nation and language into one beloved community, yet we confess that we often resist your work of bringing us together. We build walls where you are creating bridges. We protect our own interests while ignoring the needs of our neighbors. We measure abundance by what we possess rather than by the generosity we share. We seek recognition instead of cultivating the fruits of your Spirit. Forgive us, O God. Open our hearts to the gifts and wisdom of people whose experiences differ from our own. Teach us to live with generosity, patience, kindness, and love. Make us a community

where your Spirit can flourish, and where all may know they belong. In the name of Christ, who makes us one, we pray. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear the good news: God's Spirit is poured out upon all people. We are not divided by our differences, but gathered by God's grace into one body, one family, and one beloved community. In Christ, we are forgiven, renewed, and invited to bear fruit that brings healing and hope to the world.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

(Children ages 4 through 1st grade may go to Awakening to Worship, our child-friendly worship time. Greeters at the back of the Sanctuary will go with children to Room 12 downstairs where parents may pick up their children following worship. Our Nursery welcomes young children and our ushers can assist families to the nursery located in the children's wing. Worship bags are available for children who stay in worship.)

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

ONE: May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you and all others!

*RESPONSE 581

"Glory Be to The Father"

Equipping

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 104:24–34

Cheryl Johnson

O Lord, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the sea, great and wide;
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
There go the ships
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.
These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;
when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.
May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—
who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke.
I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the Lord.

SONG TO REFLECT

“Sauce Pocket”
Steel Pan Solo

by Marcus Rattler

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 2:1–13

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 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. 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.” All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Holy Wisdom, Holy Words
Thanks be to God!

SERMON

“The Spirit Gathers Us In”

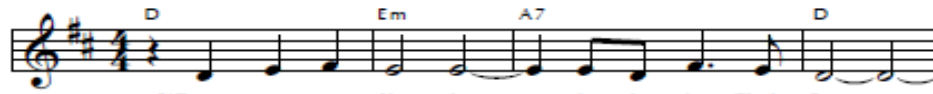
Rev. Karen Wright

SONG OF PEACE

“When We Are Living”

When We Are Living

822

Pues si vivimos

1 When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2 Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4 A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find

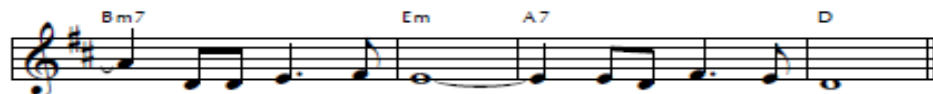
1 *Pues si vi - vi - mos, pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos,*
 2 *En es - ta vi - da fru - tos hay que dar*
 3 *En la tris - te - za y en el do - lor,*
 4 *En es - te mun - do por do - quier ha - brá*



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,
y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.
y bué - nas o - bras he - mos de o - fren - dar.
en la be - lle - za y en el a - mor,
gen - te que llo - ra y sin con - so - lar.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,
Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,
Sea ya que de - mos o que re - ci - ba - mos,
sea que su - fra - mos o que go - ce - mos,
Sea que a - yu - de - mos o que a - li - men - te - mos,



we be - long to God; we be - long to God.
so - mos del Se - ñor, so - mos del Se - ñor.

This hymn began as an orally transmitted stanza reflecting on Romans 14:7-8 and was expanded by a Spanish-language hymnal committee to offer additional examples of the many dimensions of life, thereby strengthening the recurring affirmation that we belong to God through them all.

TEXT: Stanza 1, anon.; English trans. Elise S. Ellinger, 1983;
 stanzas 2-4, Roberto Escamilla, 1983; English trans. George Lockwood, 1987
 MUSIC: Spanish melody; arr. Barbara C. Mink, 1988
 English Trans. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Spanish Text Sts. 2-4 © 1983 Abingdon Press (admin. The Copyright Company)
 Music Arr. © 1988 Barbara C. Mink (admin. Community of Christ)

SOMOS DEL SEÑOR
 10.10.10.10

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A CALL TO STEWARDSHIP

SONG FOR GIVING

"Lead on Good Shepherd"

by Frankie Orella,

Patrick Mayberry & Paul Duncan

Praise Team

*Well, I've been turned 'round, but I've never been lost.
Seen the water get troubled, but we walked across.
When my knees were shaking, you held my hand,
Turning my problems to a promised land.*

*Lead on, Good Shepherd, I'll follow all my days.
There ain't nothing sweeter than to watch you make way.
You've walked me through the valley, but you never steered me wrong.
So lead on, Good Shepherd, lead on.*

*Seen some mighty deep canyons that you brought me through.
Seen some mighty big mountains that just up and moved.
Glory, glory, hallelujah,
Yeah, that's my song
Walking with my father into the great unknown.*

*Step by step, day by day, lead me on, Lord, I pray.
Road gets dark, walk by faith, lead on Good Shepherd.*

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

The Great Thanksgiving and 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.

The Words of Institution

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion

"The Honey Bee"

by Liam Teague

Marcus Rattler, Steel Pan Solo

Prayer After Communion

Sending

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Rev. Karen Wright

***SONG TO SEND 853 "We Are Marching in the Light of God"**

All

**We are marching in the light of God!
We are dancing in the light of God!
We are praying in the light of God!
We are singing in the light of God!**

**Stand in body or spirit*

GOD'S PEACE TO YOU

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