

# Sow Good News

"Faith comes by listening." (Romans 10:17)



**INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN**  
THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

*October 1, 2023 (Proper 21)*



C.J. Briggs, Music Director  
Julie Lehmann, Church Secretary

Nancy Jermann, Liturgist  
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*LISTEN carefully, my child, to God's word,  
and incline the ear of your heart.*

~ The Rule of Benedict

## ~ GATHERING ~

*We are called to worship with the church bells.*

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS *(Matthew 13:16 & Romans 10:17)*

Blessed are your eyes for they see, and your ears for they hear.  
**For faith comes by listening.**

**\*GATHERING**                      LISTEN, GOD IS CALLING                      GTG #456  
Kenyan (NENO LAKE MUNGU)                      *Refrain x2*

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Rev. Gloria Ulloa, Presbyterian Church of Colombia)*

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.**

This God of peace accompanies us  
in each and every circumstance around us.

**We praise God's name!**

Come, let us worship God.

**\*HYMN**                      COME AND SEEK THE WAYS OF WISDOM                      GTG #174  
by Ruth Duck                      MADELEINE

**CHILDREN OF GOD**                      PARABLE OF THE LEAVEN                      by Helen Caswell

### POURING THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

**All: May God be with you there. Kids: May God be with you here.**

### **\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Arabic, Jameel Maher Khadir, Jerusalem and the Holy Land)*

**Gracious Lord, in Christ, you made us brothers and sisters and intended for us to be united, and yet we have built walls to separate us from those who are different from us. 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. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us our sins. Amen. [Silent Confession]**

**\*RESPONSE**

LORD, HAVE MERCY  
American folk melody

GTG #551  
LAND OF REST

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON** (*by Rev. Lydia Neshangwe, Zimbabwe, 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**

...Muzita raBaba, nere Mwanakomana, nere Mweya Mutsvene.

**In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** (*Isaiah 52:7*)

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

**MINUTE FOR SOWING**

IPC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

**~ LISTENING TO THE WORD ~**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION** (*Magdaléna Trgalová, Evangelical Church of Czech Brethren*)

**HEBREW BIBLE**

PROVERBS 2

(*SELECT VERSES*)

**GOSPEL LESSON**

MATTHEW 13:10-17, 31-33

(NRSV)

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people.

**For faith comes by listening.**

**SERMON**

LEAVEN

**~ RESPONDING TO THE WORD ~**

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*Apostles' Creed: Presbyterian Mission Agency Video*)

**\*INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

PEACE AND GLOBAL WITNESS

**\*RESPONSE**

DOXOLOGY

GTG #606

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**INVITATION TO THE TABLE**

**HYMN**            **THEE WE ADORE, O HIDDEN SAVIOR, THEE**            GTG #495  
by Thomas Aquinas, trans. James Russell Woodford (ADORO TE DEVOTE)

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Therefore, with all creation we sing your praise:

**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.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (*Presbyterian Peacemaking: International Peacemakers*)

## **COMMUNION**

The gifts of God, for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

~ ***GOING FORTH*** ~

**\*HYMN**            **OPEN MY EYES, THAT I MAY SEE**            GTG #451  
by Clara H. Scott

## **\*BENEDICTION**

How are we to proclaim unless we are sent:

**How beautiful are the feet of those who bring Good News!**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Know that you are loved by God and go forth to sow the Good News of God's love and peace.*

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Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA); *Peace and Global Witness Liturgy*; Cover Image: Body of Christ by Julie Lonneman

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