

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**Quartet**            *Bread of Life from Heaven*  
Briehl/Argentine melody/Haugen

**Invitation**

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer**

**Words of Institution**

**Communion of the People**

**Prayer After Communion**

**Benediction**

**Postlude**            *Elevation*            McGrath  
*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude or you may exit the pew when directed by the ushers.*

**If you have not already done so, please place your offering in the marked basket nearest the exit you use. We look forward to seeing you again next week.**

A special thank you to our ushers!

Organist: Vance Harper Jones

Ensemble: Beth Foley, Bill Harris, Pat K. Rowlett, David Taylor



*"Hallelujah," Mike Moyers, 2013, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN*

4 October 2020

World Communion Sunday

**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

Established 1817

A Congregation of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

Building Community ▪ Transforming Lives ▪ Engaging the World

*Trusting that God's grace embraces and makes covenant with all believers, First Presbyterian Church intends to be an inclusive place of spiritual growth for all people. All persons are welcomed into this fellowship and membership regardless of age, sexual orientation, gender, ethnic or racial identity, economic or educational status, or political affiliation*

# Order of Worship

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## Prayer of Preparation

*In Shona and English*

*an 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.

## Welcome and Chiming of the Trinity

**Prelude** *Moses Brings the Decalogue from Mt. Sinai* Van Hulse

### \*Call to Worship

Praise the Lord!

Today we gather around God's table from near and far

**We are the People of God!**

Though we differ in language, custom, and tradition

**We are brothers and sisters in Christ!**

For there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism

**We are One in God's Spirit!**

We are one and together we remember our Lord Jesus

**For we are the people of Redemption!**

He gave himself up for us, so we could be reconciled to God.

**Come, let us worship the God of our Salvation!**

**Anthem** *For the Fruit of All Creation*

Fred Pratt Green/Welsh melody

## Prayer of Confession

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 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. 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.

*Silent Confession*

## Assurance of Pardon

### Summary of the Law

“‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and the first commandment. And a second is like it, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’” **Matthew 22:37-39**

## Prayer of Illumination

### Lesson

Matthew 21:33-46

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### Sermon

*Rebellion in the Vineyard*

The Rev. Edward Bellis

### \*Affirmation of Faith

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.