

Worship and Holy Communion on Sunday, August 7, 2022

Welcome and Greeting God is good **all the time**. All the time **God is good**.

Question of the Day Today is the last day for?

a) high humidity b) mosquitoes c) wearing white d) bringing in school supplies

***Call to Worship**

God has summoned us here.

We believe God will speak to us.

Come to honor God and give thanks.

Seek to learn and follow in God's way.

We come willingly and ready to learn.

Let your steadfast love, O God, be upon us.

We are here to be equipped for ministry.

We expect to be empowered for God's service.

***Prayer of Invocation**

Holy God, teach us what we need to know in order to live faithfully in this troubled world.

By your Spirit lead us beyond the routines of worship to a genuine, life-changing encounter with you. Amen.

***Hymn** "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20 The Message

The vision that Isaiah son of Amoz saw regarding Judah and Jerusalem during the times of the kings of Judah: Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah. . . .

"Listen to my Message, you Sodom-schooled leaders. Receive God's revelation, you Gomorrah-schooled people.

"Why this frenzy of sacrifices?" *GOD's* asking. "Don't you think I've had my fill of burnt sacrifices, rams and plump grain-fed calves? Don't you think I've had my fill of blood from bulls, lambs, and goats? When you come before me, who ever gave you the idea of acting like this, running here and there, doing this and that – all this sheer *commotion* in the place provided for worship?

"Quit your worship charades. I can't stand your trivial religious games: monthly conferences, weekly Sabbaths, special meetings – meetings, meetings, meetings – I can't stand one more! Meetings for this, meetings for that. I hate them! You've worn me out! I'm sick of your religion, religion, religion, while you go right on sinning. When you put on your next prayer-performance, I'll be looking the other way. No matter how long or loud or often you pray, I'll not be listening. And do you know why? Because you've been tearing people to pieces, and your hands are bloody. Go home and wash up. Clean up your act. Sweep your lives clean of your evildoings so I don't have to look at them any longer. Say no to wrong. Learn to do good. Work for justice. Help the down-and-out. Stand up for the homeless. Go to bat for the defenseless.

"Come. Sit down. Let's argue this out."

This is *GOD's* Message: "If your sins are blood-red, they'll be snow-white. If they're red like crimson, they'll be like wool. If you'll willingly obey, you'll feast like kings. But if you're willful and stubborn, you'll die like dogs." That's right. *GOD* says so.

Luke 12:32-40 The Message

[Jesus said,] "Don't be afraid of missing out. You're my dearest friends! The Father wants to give you the very kingdom itself.

“Be generous. Give to the poor. Get yourselves a bank that can’t go bankrupt, a bank in heaven far from bankrobbers, safe from embezzlers, a bank you can bank on. It’s obvious, isn’t it? The place where your treasure is, is the place you will most want to be, and end up being.

“Keep your shirts on, keep the lights on! Be like house servants waiting for their master to come back from his honeymoon, awake and ready to open the door when he arrives and knocks. Lucky the servants whom the master finds on watch! He’ll put on an apron, sit them at the table, and serve them a meal, sharing his wedding feast with them. It doesn’t matter what time of the night he arrives; they’re awake – and so blessed!

“You know that if the house owner had known what night the burglar was coming, he wouldn’t have stayed out late and left the place unlocked. So don’t you be slovenly and careless. Just when you don’t expect him, the Son of Man will show up.”

Hymn “We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise”

Time of Prayer

How Is It With Your Soul?

Call to Confession

My sisters and brothers, remember that God loves us; therefore by the mercy of God, let us cease to do evil and learn to do good.

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you call us to do good, seek justice, and care for those in need, yet how often we place our own comforts above compassion for others. Forgive us, we pray, and cleanse us from these and all our offenses through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Time of Silent Prayer*

Assurance

God is merciful and kind; though our sins are like scarlet, they become like snow. Be at peace, for your sins are washed clean by the goodness of God.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Answer to the Question of the Day

Time of Offering *Thank you to everyone for your faithful generosity.*

Offering Prayer

O God, we know that where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also. When we invest generously in the work to which you call us, our lives are drawn into fulfilling relationships with you and the people you are helping. May we not be afraid to share who we are and what we have to offer each day. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Song of Offering “Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

Message “The ‘To Do’ List” Rev. Joyce Rich

Holy Communion *Have your cup and bread ready.*

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving #9 *UMH*

The Lord’s Prayer #10 *UMH*

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer After Receiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Commission and Blessing**

Enter your everyday world dressed for action and ready to serve,

for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

We are ready to meet Jesus at home and at work.

We are ready to serve wherever we are.

Work for justice and peace where you live.

Let your prayers and service embrace those in need.

God is our assurance and our peace.

Christ is the light along our way.

The Holy Spirit fills and empowers us.

Amen. **And Amen.**

***Hymn** “Fill My Cup, Lord”

Announcements

Read For Next Week Psalm 80; Isaiah 5:1-7; Luke 12:49-56

*Liturgical resources drawn from: **Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion**; **Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2**, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press; **Gathered by Love**, Lavon Bayler © 1994 United Church Press; and **The United Methodist Book of Worship** © 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House.*