

17th Sunday after Pentecost –October 1st, 2017

World Communion Sunday

**indicates please stand as you are able*

GATHERING

Silent Meditation

Welcome & Announcements

***Centering Song:** “Come All You People” (1st time African, 2nd time English) #388

***Call to Worship:**

We come today bringing our loaves and fishes.

We pray for hearts like the young boy who cheerfully gave away his lunch to the crowd who gathered around our Lord.

Take our gifts and multiply them for the needy of this world even as you took his four loaves and two fishes and fed the multitude.

In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we come to praise your name.

Let us worship God.

***Opening Hymn:** “In Christ There Is No East or West” #318

Call to Confession

Litany of Confession

(Bulletin Insert)

Silent Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon & Hope:

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

May the God of mercy, who forgives us of all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in eternal life.

I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Sung Response:** “Bless the Lord” #544

***Passing of the Peace:** The Peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

THE WORD

Children’s Message

Prayer for Illumination:

Blessed Lord, who caused all Holy scriptures to be written for our learning:

Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Scripture: John 6:1-14

Feeding the Five Thousand

p. 97 NT

John 6:44-51

Bread from Heaven

p. 98 NT

Sermon: “Multiply the Gift”

Rev. Dan Billings

WE RESPOND

Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed

p. 35

Invitation to the Offering Printed prayer requests are gathered with the offering and shared during the Prayers of the People.

Offertory: "Sheaves of Wheat" (#532)

**Doxology*

**Prayer of Dedication*

Take our loaves and fishes and multiply them that the whole world might sit down to eat. Multiply our gifts to feed the hungry, to free the captives, to love all those in need of wholeness. We give to you this morning, not only our commitments, but we give to you the promise of our time and prayers, our hours of concern, our special talents, our creativity, our good hard work, and our money. And we give all of this in a spirit of cheerfulness and joy to our God who has gifted us with the bounty of amazing love. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

"All who have faith in Jesus Christ are welcome at this table."

Our church, as a member of the PC(USA), practices an open Communion Table. This means that all Christians, regardless of one's particular tradition or church membership, are welcome to join us in celebrating the Lord's Supper.

**Communion Hymn:* "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"

#526

Invitation to the Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord's Prayer

(Bulletin Insert)

Post Communion Prayer:

God of our Risen Lord, we thank you for preparing this table before us, for calling us this morning to sit as one in your house. We commit anew all that we have and are to your service, as in partnership with those from every nation, we accept our responsibility for mission wherever we are called. In the name of our Lorde Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

SENDING OUT

**Closing Hymn:* "O Sacred Head Now Wounded"

#221

**Benediction*

**Closing Sung Response:* "The Lord Now Sends Us Forth"

(no repeats) #747

Postlude

Portions of today's liturgy from "Multiply the Gift" and "Searching for Shalom" by Ann Weems

LITANY OF CONFESSION

O Lord, we've heard the old, old story
And we confess our sin of indifference.

**God, Jolt our lives
To turn and look at You once more.**

Give us the ears to hear your amazing story
That God would become one of us
 living among us
 teaching us
 sitting down at table with us
 breaking bread and drinking wine with us
 and then dying among us
 for us
Amazing grace!

**O Lord, we ask for your presence this day.
Brush against us when we least expect it.
Touch us with your Spirit.
Take us by the shoulders and shake us awake
to your incredible truth.**

We are your people
and you are our God.
Forgive our faithlessness, O faithful God!
And see beyond our apathy,
 our thoughtlessness
 our self-centeredness
 our wrong choices.
See into our hearts,
for you are our Treasure.

**We Pledge once more to give
to those who need us, that this world might
be more human.
We pledge to do away with indifference.
We pledge to tell the old, old story
in new life-changing ways!
For Jesus' sake. Amen.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lift up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

We give thanks to God whose love is everlasting.

Holy Lord, almighty God, you have filled all heaven and earth with your glory.

We praise you that you have called us to your table to be blessed with your gifts of bread and wine.

Our prayer is that no one will go away hungry. In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Reading of the Institution

Blessing of the elements

Lord's Prayer (using Debts and Debtors)

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Post Communion Prayer Printed in Bulletin