



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

24th Sunday after Pentecost | November 7, 2021

*\*Indicates where it is appropriate, but not necessary, to stand.*

*All speak words in **boldface**.*

## ❖ Called by God We Gather ❖

### GATHERING MUSIC, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(Gather and greet each other in joy.)*

### CALLED TO WORSHIP IN RINGING THE TRINITY AND IN MUSIC

*(When the chimes toll, let us silently open our spirit to God's presence in our midst.)*

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

arr. Philip M. Young

### OPENING SENTENCES

From north to south, from east to west,

**God gathers us in.**

From cities and farms, from plenty and want,

**God gathers us in.**

From young to old, from every race and identity,

**God gathers us in.**

From those confident in their faith to those struggling to believe,

**God gathers us in.**

People of God, come now and worship the Lord!

(vv. 1 & 3)

***For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

***For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

\*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Let us pray together:

**How good it is to praise your name, God of Creation!**

From the very first tale told around family tables  
to the last word written in the book of time,  
you tell us the story of your love and grace.  
From the foundation laid in Eden's valleys  
to the ever-open gates of the new Jerusalem,  
you show us your vision of life lived together.

**How good it is to praise your name, Savior of All!**

When those lies we've heard whispered become shouts, you come –  
speaking truth to our fearful hearts.  
Where we see scarcity, you reveal abundance,  
where we see strangers, you reveal neighbors, family.  
When differences distort our relationships, you come –  
gathering all your children to feast at table together.  
Where we would curate guests lists and manage table groups,  
you revel in the inevitable mess and awkwardness  
and even conflict in moving from "us and them" to "we."

**How good it is to praise your name, Spirit of Truth!**

When our stories exclude  
caring for others and the planet, you come –  
stirring us to review our choices and to try again.  
Come, Holy Spirit, enter the silence as we reflect.

*(Silent confession)*

O God; **forgive us.**

In letting go of the fears that only mislead us,

**may we feast and listen together –  
leaning into your way for the world.**

In setting aside false pride,

**may we reach out and uplift those in need.**

In turning from excluding the other,

**may we work together and serve the One who unites us all,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Friends, no matter how many times it is said, it bears repeating:

God loves us, God forgives us, God heals us, God restores us.

We are set free to live new lives together in God's vision of love,  
with hope, grace, and joy.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE                      *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DIX

***For thyself, best gift divine to the world so freely given;  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.***

TEXT: Fanny Jane Crosby, 1875. MUSIC: William Howard Doane, 1875 P.D.

❖ **To Hear God's Word of Grace** ❖

SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:1-15

ANTHEM

*Assurance of Unity*

Williams & Martin

Vicki Chadwick, Lynn Auman, Laura Viau, Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, Ed Carter; singers

Your love unites us. Your word delights us. Your peace reminds us we are ever  
in Your tender care. Your love surrounds us. Your work astounds us. We are Your  
church, O God, and You have made us one. Lord, we adore You. We bow before  
You. Lord, we implore You as we gather in Your holy name. Come Spirit, teach us.  
With grace now lead us. We are Your church, O God, and You have made us one.  
We are one voice, one alleluia. We are one song of praise forever in God's grace.  
We are one people. We are one hymn of faith. We are one church in Love's  
embrace. Lord, we are grateful. We will be faithful, and by Your grace fulfill our

destiny of truth and life. Lord, You are holy. We serve You only. We are Your church, O God, and You have made us one.

SERMON

"Come to the Table"

Rev. Laura Viau

## ❖ To Respond in Faith with Gratitude ❖

### CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### Invitation

This is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
People will come from north and south and from east and west  
to sit at table in the kingdom of God.  
It is then we will see and experience the truth:  
There is but one body and one Spirit,  
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling,  
one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.  
This table is where we practice being one.  
the longtime member, the child, the friend, and the stranger.  
You are welcome to eat at this table.

#### Great Prayer of 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.**

One God, holy and good,  
we have been united with you  
through the life and ministry,  
death and resurrection,  
of Jesus the Christ.

You welcome us, and proclaim to the world  
that we all are connected,  
that we all belong.

Now, may we who are united by your Spirit  
experience your presence

in a bold and new way.  
At his last meal with his friends  
Jesus called them and us to remember,  
and so we do that now.

*(Do actions while speaking)*

We remember: how Jesus took bread,  
gave thanks to you,  
broke it, and shared it among them.

*(Do actions while speaking)*

Later Jesus took a cup,  
and again gave you thanks,  
and shared that with them.  
“These are my body and blood,” he said.  
“Whenever you share in this meal  
Remember me.”

Bless us who have gathered here  
out of love for you,  
and strengthen us by these gifts  
to serve you in the world  
and to share your love  
with everyone we meet.

**Amen.** Communion prayer from *Seasons of the Spirit*, Ephesians

### Lord’s Prayer

Now let us pray the family prayer together, saying:

**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.**

### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

We have come to the Lord’s table,  
God is the one who will transform us  
so that we can see the world  
with the eyes of Jesus,  
hear the world with the ears of Jesus,  
speak to the world

with the words of Jesus;  
so that we can be  
the body of Christ  
in this hurting world.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, thank you  
for gathering us together at this table,  
one with each other and with all your children.  
Bind us together as your one body,  
that we may share your grace with all those we meet. **Amen.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Molly Frederick, 8:30; Donna Trest, 11:00

Mission & Benevolence Committee

❖ **To Depart Blessed to Serve** ❖

\*HYMN, #509

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

HOLY MANNA

*(v. 1 sung by music leaders; vv. 2 & 3 by all)*

TEXT: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1990. MUSIC: William Moore's Columbian Harmony, 1825. P.D. Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.  
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\*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING MUSIC



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**Linda Rowell**, Church Treasurer; **Joyce Winkler**, Qualified Ruling Elder;  
**Hery Ramambasoa**, Regional Liaison for Southeast Asia and the Pacific

## All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly 509

1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man-na is our bread.  
 2 All who hun-ger, nev-er strang-ers, seek-er, be a wel-come guest.  
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er; Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.

Come from wil-der-ness and wan-dering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.  
 Come from rest-less-ness and roam-ing. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.  
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a-round us is our food.  
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com-mu-nion's love have stood.  
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.

Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.