

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

October 4, 2020

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

We Gather in God's Name . . .

PRELUDE

PRAYER OF PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

(for silent prayer during the prelude)

Almighty God, you built your church on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Jesus Christ himself as the cornerstone. Gather your church in unity, by your Holy Spirit, that it may manifest your power among all peoples to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.¹ **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND GREETING

*CALL TO WORSHIP (FROM PSALM 19)

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

All: Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you; O Lord, our rock and our redeemer. Let us worship God!

OPENING HYMN: "God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand"

#262

God of the ages, whose almighty hand Leads forth in beauty all the starry band Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, Our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine hath led us in the past; In this free land by Thee our lot is cast; Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay; Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, Be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense; Thy true religion in our hearts increase; Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Thy people on their toilsome way, Lead us from night to never ending day; Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, And glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

*FIRST READING Exodus 20:1-20 *The Ten Commandments*

One: Then God spoke all these words: I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;

All: you shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.

One: You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

All: You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God,

One: for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

All: Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy.

One: Six days you shall labor and do all your work. But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

All: Honor your father and your mother,

One: so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you.

All: You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

One: When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said to the

people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

*CALL TO CONFESSION

God set forth his law ages ago, but we continue to fail to meet that standard. We are commanded to fear the Lord, but Moses tells us, also, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin." Let us come before the God of Mercy to confess our sins.

*SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you commanded the Israelites to keep your law as you brought them out of slavery — out of Egypt. You have, also, offered us freedom from slavery to sin and death. We fail, though, to keep your commandments. We fail to honor you by placing other things before you. We use our Sabbath for our own selfish intentions. We fail to honor our neighbor as you command. Forgive our sins, and renew our hearts that we might be transformed to be the people you have called us to be to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Moses teaches the Israelites that God shows his steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love God and keep his commandments. Let us repent and enjoy God's steadfast love and know that we are forgiven. Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

. . . to Proclaim God's Word

EPISTLE READING Philippians 3:4b-14 **p. 198**

*GOSPEL READING Matthew 21:33-46 **p. 24**

SERMON "The Source of Our Confidence" Rev. Andy Smothers

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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.

***CONFESSION OF FAITH**

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. 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.

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S SUPPER

GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise

One: Holy God, Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, with joy we praise you and give thanks to your name. You formed the universe in your wisdom, and created all things by your power. You set us in families on the earth to live with you in faith. We praise you for good gifts of bread and wine, and for the table you spread in the world as a sign of your love for all people in Christ. Great and wonderful are your works, Lord God almighty. Your

ways are just and true. Therefore we lift our hearts in joyful praise, joining our voices with choirs of angels, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

All: 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.

One: We praise you, most holy God, for sending your only Son to live among us, sharing our joy and sorrow. He told your story, healed the sick, and was a friend of sinners. Obeying you, he took up his cross and died that we might live. We praise you that he overcame death and is risen to rule the world. He is still the friend of sinners. We trust him to overcome every power that can hurt or divide us, and believe that when he comes in glory, we will celebrate victory with him. Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we break bread and share one cup giving thanks for your saving love in Jesus Christ. As you raised our Lord from death and call us with him from death to life, we give ourselves to you to live for him in joy and grateful praise. Great is the mystery of faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. Send us out in the power of the Spirit to live for others, as Christ lived for us, announcing his death for the sins of the world, and telling his resurrection to all people and nations. By your Spirit draw us together into one body and join us to Christ the Lord, that we may remain his glad and faithful people until we feast with him in glory. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, forever and ever.

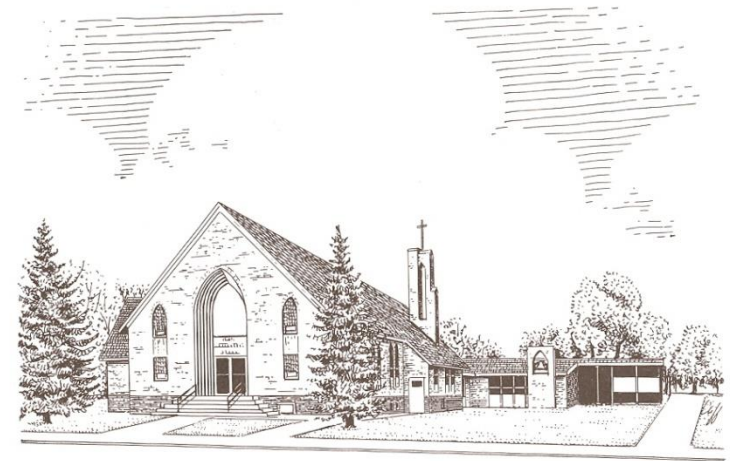
WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

¹ *Book of Common Worship, 378-9.*

First Presbyterian Church



**123 Fourth Avenue SW
Conrad, Montana 59425
(406) 278 3043
conpres@3rivers.net
<https://www.conradfirstpres.org>**

Interim Pastor: Rev. Andrew Smothers
Clerk of Session: Marla Bruner
Church Secretary: Wendi Dayrider