



Order of Worship

6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 17, 2022

Call to worship *(Based on Luke 10:38-42)*

Christ invites and welcomes us;

We come to sit at Jesus' feet.

There is need of only one thing:

Let us not be distracted during this sacred time.

Call to confession

Sin clings to us and distorts our hearing of God's Word.

Therefore, let us confess our personal and communal sins to ready ourselves to receive God's truth.

Prayer of confession

Christ our Savior, we are worried and distracted by many things. Our minds wander. Our apathy reigns. We prefer to focus on ourselves than on you. Forgive our lack of attention. Forgive us for not prioritizing you and attending to you. Humbly, we sit at your feet and ask for your grace. Amen.

Assurance of pardon

Receive the forgiveness offered us in Christ. Rejoice in the redemption God provides. Amen.

Prayer for illumination

Your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Guide us, Holy Spirit, through your Word read and proclaimed today. Amen.

Scripture readings



Sermon

Affirmation of faith *(From A Brief Statement of Faith)*

We trust in Jesus Christ,
fully human, fully God.

Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor
and release to the captives,
teaching by word and deed
and blessing the children,
healing the sick
and binding up the brokenhearted,
eating with outcasts,
forgiving sinners,
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,
Jesus was crucified,
suffering the depths of human pain
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

God raised this Jesus from the dead,
vindicating his sinless life,
breaking the power of sin and evil,
delivering us from death to life eternal.

Call for the offering

“Each of you must give as you have made up your mind,
not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a
cheerful giver” *(2 Corinthians 9:7)*.

Prayer of dedication

God of abundance, you give generously to provide for our
needs. May these gifts be a blessing to others just as we
have been blessed by you. Amen.



Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer:

God of the sacred and the mundane, your presence is needed among your people. Dirty dishes are piling up, the trash needs to be taken out, book club is meeting at our house and we've got no appetizers to serve. We are worried and distracted by many things, God. May we sit here at your feet for a moment? May we breathe with you and pray with you and enjoy a little silence? May we remind ourselves of our one need, considering our many tasks? Yes? Oh, thank you, great God of holy invitation. We praise you for this sacred stillness.

Prince of Peace, our world is broken by violence and our hearts torn with lament. Rage burns hot among those whose rights are violated and stripped away. Power is abused by those not seeking the path of righteousness, but the path of profiting off others' pain. The values of our world are upside down, aiding the rich and punishing the poor. God of the downtrodden, strengthen us for the work of your kin-dom. Recalibrate our world with equity. Balance the scales of justice so all might thrive.

Giver of life, lover of unity, you draw us together in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit. But we strain against one another and resist the call to community. In this day of division, help us to work together and build bridges for the good of us all. May our relationships breed trust and dispel past hurts. Lead us in the work of reconciliation, setting aside personal and petty grievances, listening to each other in love. We are your people, and this is Christ's church. Bless us, Holy God, through this community.

In your mercy, Beloved God, hear these prayers of your people. Now, as the Body of Christ, we pray as Christ taught us, **"Our Father, who art in heaven ..."**



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Charge and benediction

God calls.

Christ walks with us.

The Holy Spirit guide us.

As we enter this new week may we go with the grace and blessings of God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

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Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott
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