



World Communion Sunday

October 6, 2024

Draw near to God

for God is waiting for you.

* indicates where the congregation is to stand if able
italic type is spoken by the liturgist – bold is spoken by the congregation

PRELUDE

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

God's love unites all people from around the world into one family.

On behalf of the peoples through the Pacific, we say in Maori, "Kiaora" (Kee-a-ora) – Welcome!

God has given to us all some loving rules to guide us in getting along as one family.

On behalf of the peoples of Africa, we say in Swahili, "Karibu" (Car-ee-boo) – Welcome!

God's rules are sweeter than the purest honey, and our life is sweeter when we follow them.

On behalf of the peoples of Europe, we say in German, "Willkommen" (Vill-co-min)– Welcome!

On this World Communion Sunday, we gather to share symbolically in a holy meal with other Christians around the world.

On behalf of the peoples of Asia, we say in Mandarin Chinese, "Huānyíng" (Who-on-ying) – Welcome!

On behalf of all those peoples who have no voice, we sign with the international language of all.



(hold the flat hand palm up out away from your body (off to the right a bit) and then bringing the hand in toward your torso)

Let us worship God, and say to one another: Welcome!

Welcome!

***OPENING PRAYER**

Holy God, Creator of all, gather your family around your table. Set a place for us and make room for everyone. Help us to remember Jesus and celebrate his feast of bread and wine. Give us communion and community with the whole world you love. Amen.

***HYMN #1** Holy, Holy, Holy

1. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

2. Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

3. Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.

4. Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND BROKENESS

Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND BLESSING

... Jesus died for me. Jesus forgives me. Jesus loves me. Jesus is good to me. Amen.

****GLORIA PATRI***

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON Galatians 3:23-29

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

****HYMN #510*** We Gather Here

1. We gather here in Jesus' name; his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
his love is burning in our hearts like living flame; for through the loving Son the Father makes us one:
come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.
No one is a stranger here; everyone belongs. Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.

2. He joins us here; he breaks the bread; the Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead;
the one we love the most is now our gracious host:
come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.
We are now a family, of which the Lord is head. Though unseen, he meets us here in the breaking of the bread.

3. We'll gather soon where angels sing; we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;
now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:
come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

GOSPEL LESSON John 3:1-17

SERMON The Welcome Table

CALL FOR THE OFFERING AND MOMENT OF FRIENDSHIP

OFFERTORY

****DOXOLOGY***

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him, all creatures here below. Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

****PRAYER OF DEDICATION***

Use the gifts which we offer to you, Holy God, to restore joy to the despairing, to give food to the hungry, and willing spirits to us, that we might be servants to all your people. Amen.

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

UNISON PRAYER

Gracious God, we offer our thanks, for the whole communion of saint's witness to this feast, and for the ministry of churches around the world who gather with us today. By this broken bread may we each be restored for the work yet to come. By this shared cup may we each be claimed for the proclamation of your Kingdom. At this shared table may we be united as children of your promise, children of your word, dying and made new again, sent boldly together into the world as servants of your peace. Amen.

***HYMN #317** In Christ There Is No East or West

1. In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

2. In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord close binding humankind.

3. Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

4. In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS, October 6, 2024

This week's carillon is in memory of Dr. Robert Swaim. Dr. Swaim was an interim Pastor of Forest Grove Presbyterian Church.

TODAY WE WILL RECEIVE A SPECIAL OFFERING: Hurricane Helene has left many areas of our country completely devastated. Organizations have been at work helping those who have been affected. Although we are far from the destruction, Jesus calls us to help those in need. A special offering will be received both today and next Sunday that will then be given to the Red Cross to provide the much needed goods and services. If you would like to contribute to this offering, please use the special envelopes in the pews that are marked "Hurricane Helene." Checks can be made out to the church and marked "Hurricane Helene." Donations can also be made through the mail.

WELCOME LEANNE YERKES AS OUR GUEST MUSICIAN: Leanne is not a stranger to the piano here at Forest Grove, but as our retired Director of Music, she has graciously offered her gifts of music for today's service. We are always glad to have Leanne's talents lead our musical offerings.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: This week we are asking for the following items: Canned/Boxed Soups and Crackers. Donations are to be placed in the wagon found in the vestibule.

This week's calendar of events:

October 6	10:00 am	Worship followed by Fellowship.
	4:00 pm	Iglesia Pentecostal Asamblea De Dios Worship Service
October 7	9:30 am	Bible Study in person and on Zoom https://zoom.us/j/127591875
	11:00 am	Parish Life and Mission meeting
	7:00 pm	Boy Scout Troop 71 Meeting
October 8	6:00 pm	Beekeepers
October 9	12:00 pm	Bring your Brown bag lunch for Fellowship

Elder of the month: Courtney Woolslayer **Deacon of the month:** Louise Stemplewicz

Ushers: Gerry and Louise Stemplewicz **Fellowship hour:** Gerry and Louise Stemplewicz

Communion servers: Louise Stemplewicz, Maggie Rash

In our thoughts and prayers:

The Conner/Lang Family, Aleena Lang, Raymond Tinari, Marge and Jim Turner, Violet Sanders,
Mary Lou Humlhanz, Pat Pizza, Gail Shaffer, Shannon Foster, Doris Daniels

Please hold the Tinari family in prayer as they mourn the loss of Ralph's brother. Jesus said, "Blessed are those who mourn for they will be comforted."



Church Staff
Susan Fall, Pastor
Susan Flanagan, Office Administrator
Frank Orzechoski, Financial Manager

