



"A Community Of Many Faithing Communities Where All Belong!"

Living Waters Contemplative Life Center | Divine Intervention Ministry to the Homeless
Tippecanoe just.good.food Garden | Food Justice Site PCUSA
Arts and Science Literacy Camps for Children

Welcome To Worship

Sunday, October 2, 2022

9:30 a.m.

"A New Commandment: Love One Another"
Rev. Trish Eckert



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.

✧Prelude: Zo Trembley

✧Welcome and community news

- Remember to RSVP for Pastor Karen's retirement party, Saturday October 22nd 5-7 pm at Christ Church UCC with a brief program scheduled at 5:30 pm. This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate Karen!
- Signing Cards for members of our community who are at home

✧Readying Ourselves for Worship

Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground! Surely God is in this place, Holy Ground!

✧A Blessing as we Center Ourselves in this Moment “Love One Another”

Love the sunrise which wakes you up.

Love the warm body bedside you in bed or resting in your eternal heart.

Love the farmworker who picked your coffee beans or tea leaves.

Love the bold crow cawing “day” and the hidden owl cooing “night”.

Love the children you asked for and those you didn't.

Love the roof over your head and those who built it.

Love the sibling who hurt you yesterday or decades ago.

Love the hymn that trails you like a faithful dog.

Love the neighbor who never, ever smiles.

Love the way you keep learning how to grow older.

Love the friends who return with food and hope.

Love the people others tell you to hate.

Love the building blocks of life – earth, wind, fire, water, and soil.

Love the gentle way God turns your heart toward compassion.

Love the human beings a sea away with whom you share DNA.

Love the ones who are present and those who are long gone.

Love the person you see in the mirror.

Love the Spirit who tugs us into relationship.

Love the Christ who invites us into transformation.

Love the Creator who leads us into life and life eternal. Amen.

✧Becoming Present to God and Each Other...Our Check-in:

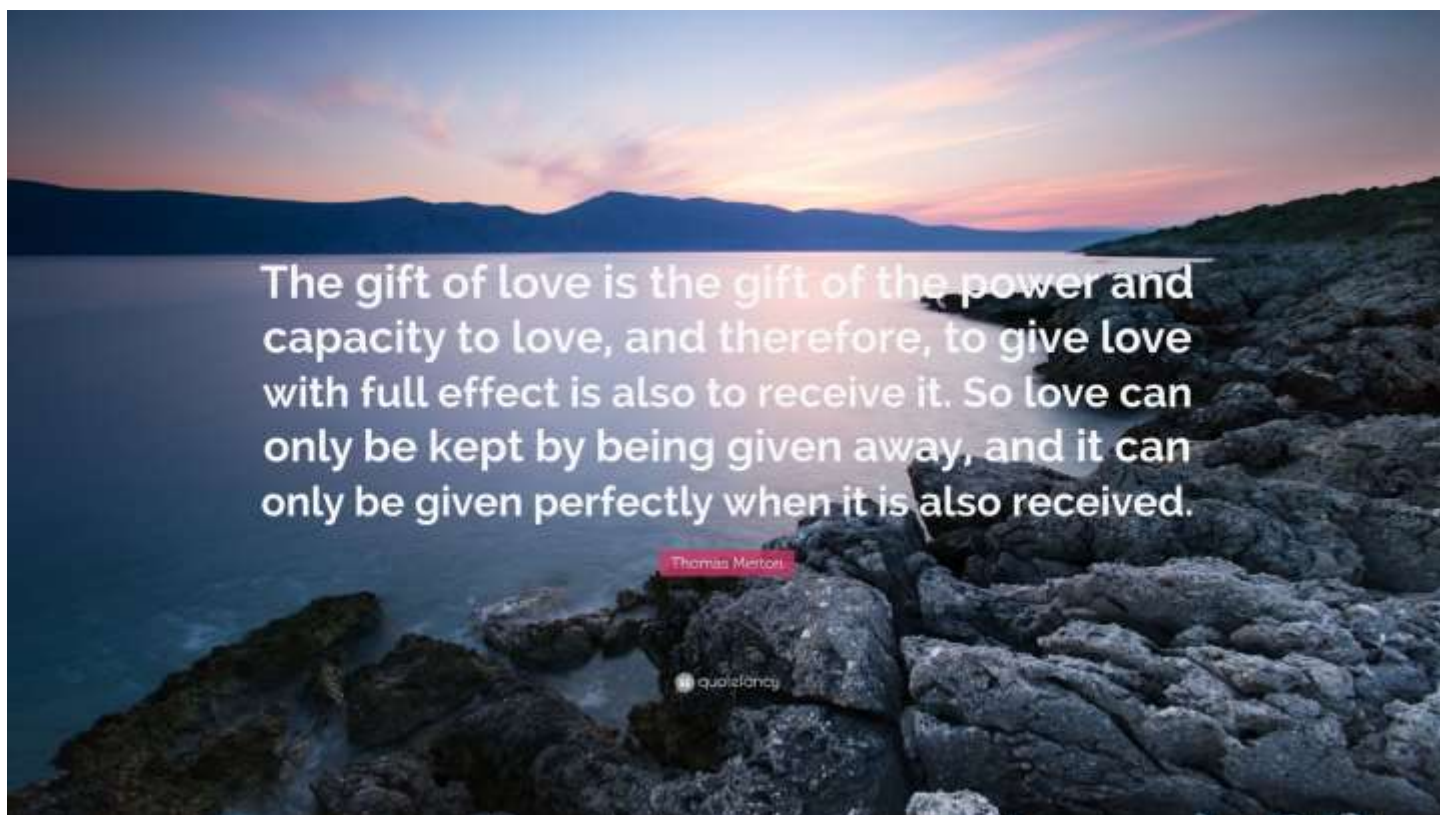
~ The Joy of Passing the Peace ~



✧Kid's Time

✧Gathering as God's People: Our Theme – Gifts and Gratitude

In this season as we take stock and consider where we have been and where we feel led to go, we are reflecting on the gifts within us and around us. Last week we contemplated our individual spiritual gifts and again considered what it means to be individual members in the one body of Christ. On this World Communion Sunday, we will reflect on the precious gift of each other everywhere and as we celebrate communion together, we also celebrate our oneness in Christ with our siblings around the world. Last week we reflected on our individual spiritual gifts and today we widen the lens to consider the expanse of the world – the gifts embedded in communities all over the planet as well as the challenges that various parts of the world are navigating. We will witness to the ways that we are alike alongside the ways we are different and turn our attention to the commandment to love one another.



✧Gathering Hymn 757 *Today We all are Called to be Disciples*

✧Opening Ourselves to God's Grace

ALL: God of peace and love, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may share your gifts of grace in every place and every encounter. Amen.

✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Eternal God, at times we are like strangers on this earth, taken aback by all the violence, the harsh oppositions. Like a gentle breeze, you breathe upon us in the Spirit of peace and love. Transfigure the deserts of our doubts, and so prepare us to be bearers of reconciliation wherever you place us, until the day when expansive peace and wholehearted love dawns in our world. Amen.

✧ **Special Music** *Love* – a poem by Rumi, music by Rosie Rain

Rosie will teach us this song and we'll sing it each Sunday for the next few weeks.

LYRICS

*Love came and became
Like blood in my body,
It rushed through my veins
And encircled my heart.
Everywhere I looked I saw one thing,
Love's name written on my limbs,
On my left palm
On my forehead
On the back of my neck,
On my right big toe
Oh my friend, all that you see of me
Is just a shell
And the rest belongs to LOVE*

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teaching John 13:34-35**

“A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.”

✧ **Message “A New Commandment: Love One Another”**

✧ **Reflection Questions**

- What helps me accept and endure hurt without letting it degrade me and without passing it on?
- When have I relied on God for the patience to endure a difficult time?
- When I feel discouraged about the state of the world, what helps me keep going?
- In what ways am I endeavoring to face the evil in the world and to match it with redemptive love?

✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

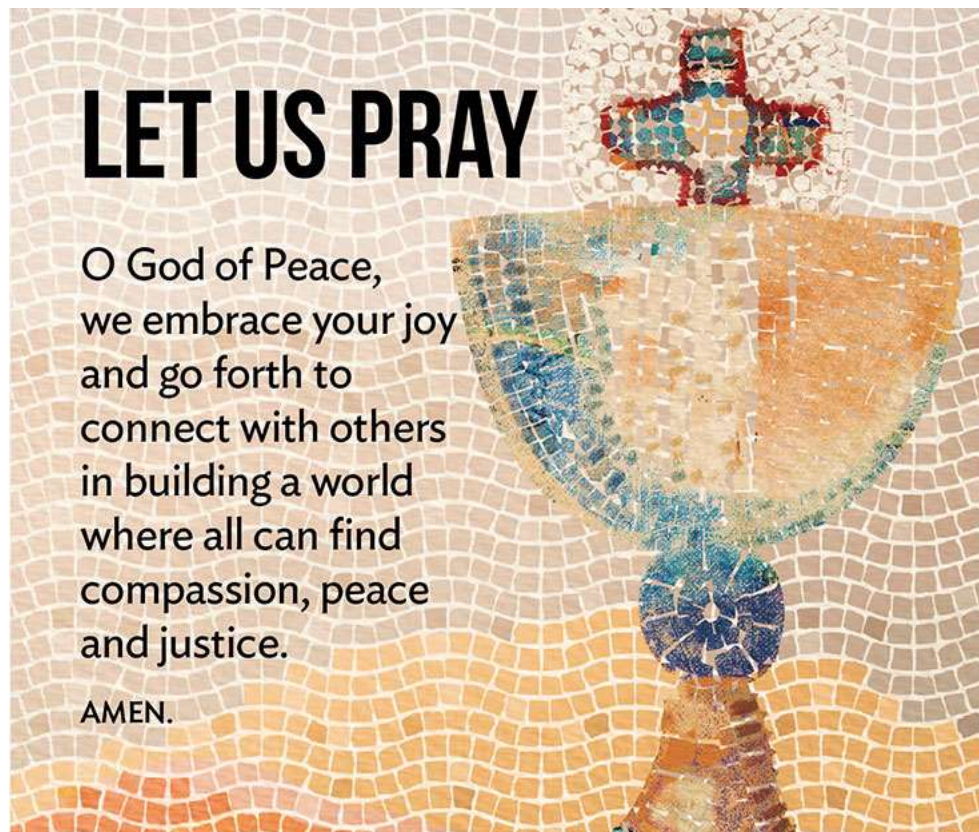
✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Hymn** *A New Commandment*

LYRICS

*A new commandment I give unto you,
That you love one another
As I have loved you,
That you love one another
As I have loved you.
By this shall all know that you are my disciples
If you have love one to another
By this shall all know that you are my disciples
If you have love one to another*

✧ **Community Prayers & the Pastoral Prayer**



✧ **Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread Communion of the People**

Welcome

In John's Gospel, Jesus gives his disciples the commandment to love one another. On this World Communion Sunday, let us reflect on the many people who are celebrating the Lord's Supper today. Let us send out our love and hold them in prayer, let us remember the commandment to love one another.

Today's Bible Wisdom teaching came from John chapter 13, and in that chapter, Jesus washes the feet of his disciples – the very people he knows will betray him and deny him and fail him. In every moment, Jesus shows us how to love. May we open ourselves to that love and share it with those we know as well as the stranger. In our pain and through our brokenness, let love transform each of us, and in turn, empower us to love everyone. As Thomas Merton tells us, "The gift of love is the gift of the power and capacity to love, and therefore, to give love with full effect is also to receive it. So love can only be kept by being given away, and it can only be given perfectly when it is also received."

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.

It is right and good that together we lift up Your name as holy, O God, Giver of New and Renewed Life! Always active, ever watchful, You keep Your promise even when we lose sight of all that you provide us. We fail to trust, we become distracted, we hurt one another and harm Your creation. Yet, You claim us as Your very own in this life and all time to come. You make a way where there is no way, through your beloved Son. Lord Jesus, we are grateful that you walked among us to show us the way toward wholeness. Through your life, ministry, death, and resurrection, you manifest the love poured out for us and the love that we are called to share with the world.

Abiding Spirit, you provide glimpses of the Christ among us every day, joining us together as the Body of Christ. Through your powerful love and abiding presence, draw us into Christ's presence, and may we also be present to one another around the world as we share in this holy meal of bread and cup.

Gracious God,
pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,
that the bread we break
and the cup we bless
may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ.
By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
that we may be one with all who share this feast,
united in ministry in every place.
As this bread is Christ's body for us,
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world

We join our voices as one, praying as Jesus taught us:

✧**The Lord's Prayer**

Our Father, who is 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

Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread

Jesus said: I have set you an example, that you also should do as I have done to you. Very truly, I tell you, servants are not greater than their master, nor are messengers greater than the one who sent them. If you know these things, you are blessed if you do them. Jesus taught through word and action, and on that final night with his disciples, he gave them a new commandment, to love one another. Just as Jesus Christ loves, we should also love one another.

In fellowship and at table, Jesus again revealed to the disciples what was to come through his life, death, and resurrection. He took bread, blessed it, and broke it. Then he gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

He then took up the cup, blessed the juice of the vine and gave it to the disciples, saying, Drink of the cup of life, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Pastor: Come, let's share in the feast of new and everlasting life!

All: We are ready. The Table is set. And we remember. Your Spirit is life. Through this faithful act of communing, You join us more deeply to Yourself, to Your people here and to all Your people. In deepest gratitude, we imbibe grace!



Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Holy One, we walk the path trusting that You will show us the way. May we awaken to Your invitation to life, sustained on the journey by this meal and nurtured by this gathering. May we who have received this sacrament live in the unity of your Holy Spirit, that we may show forth your gifts to all the world. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Liturgy adapted from PCSUA resources

The Book of Common Worship
The Directory of Worship
and online PCUSA materials

✧ **Benediction – a blessing from Cuba**

May God prosper you.

May your days be long and your nights serene.

May your friendships honor you, and your family love you.

May you eat at your table, and may you be gathered into God's embrace with a smile.

Now that the worship has ended, may the service truly begin.

✧ **Our Response:**

Holy One, now we your servants go in peace. Your Word lives on in us.

✧ **Postlude**

Hear this service presented on TippeTalk podcast, link on our website & Facebook.

<http://www.tippechurch.org>