



Tippecanoe Presbyterian Church

"We take the Bible seriously, but we don't take it literally."

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Welcome To Worship

October 6, 2024
9:30 a.m.



Welcome to this time of being with God and each other.
World Communion Sunday: "Family of Faith" Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Candle-lighting and Chimes**

✧ **Prelude:** “Loaves Were Broken” (Beach Spring) ~ Tippe Musicians

✧ **Welcome and community news**

Join us after worship, beginning at 10:45 am, as we join members of Crossroads Presbyterian who are coming to support us through their “Faith in Action” Sunday – we’ll work alongside one another until about noon. We’ll be gathering at the picnic tables to greet them, pray together, and break into small teams.

You’re invited to a “**Tippe Night In**” on **Friday** evening, **October 18th** for a gathering around our fire pit near the labyrinth – a time for fellowship, snacks, and rich conversation. We’ll get started around 5:30 pm.

We’re seeking contributions to a **holiday cookie recipe book** for the 2024 holiday season! Send your recipes to Deacon Janet Scheffel at tippecares@gmail.com by **Monday, October 28th**. When you submit your recipe, provide a bit of history regarding the recipe you are sharing – maybe it’s an old family recipe, or there is a particular memory attached to it or a specific reason that you like this recipe. Area congregations are also invited to contribute. The books will be bound by a printer and sold among the contributing churches. All proceeds will support our Divine Intervention ministry!

✧ **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**

God of many names, as we gather in worship on this World Communion Sunday, we ask that you send your Holy Spirit to fall afresh on us. We pray for your Spirit to awaken new hope in us. Grant us the vision to see the coming of your kingdom. Help us to celebrate the glimpses of grace that you have given to each of us. Knit our hearts together in worship and communion so that we know we do not struggle alone in working for your peace and justice. Amen

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

~ **The Joy of Passing the Peace** ~

One: May the peace that surpasses all understanding be with you

All: **And also with you**

One: Thanks be to God

✧ **Gathering as God's People: World Communion Sunday**

The first Sunday in October is designated as World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with all our siblings around the world. Today, our connection to other faith communities will include the joy of working alongside one another as we partner with folks from Crossroads Presbyterian. With that in mind, we're adjusting our time in the sanctuary so that we'll be available to partner with others in ministry. Let us open our hearts to what God has in store for our family of faith!

✧ **Gathering Hymn No 630 vs. 1, 2, 3 GTG "Fairest Lord Jesus"**

✧ **Opening Ourselves to God's Grace**

One: Today we gather to praise God for the steadfast love which helps us walk faithfully.

All: We eagerly rejoice and seek.

One: This is the day to sing a song of thanksgiving; to tell of God's wondrous deeds!

All: We trust God to redeem us.

One: Our faith leads us to turn to God today and every day,

All: as we celebrate our covenant to be followers of the Christ.

✧ **Sharing our Innermost Lives with God**

Holy God,

We celebrate today, grateful for the opportunity we have to worship you in word, in song, and through connection at the Table.

What a gift it is to gather with others, to offer our praise and to receive the gifts of bread and cup which bind us together to you and to your beloved Son, whom we claim as Jesus, the Christ.

In this time of worship, fill us with joy as we offer you the best we have: our love, our time, our talents and our finances.

May we tap into our "little child" identity, so our enthusiasm bubbles over as we worship. Amen.

✧ **Special Music "O God beyond All Praising" – Gustav Holst**

✧ **Prayer of Intention**

Holy Spirit, may we hear your gracious Word for us today. May we grow in wisdom, strength, and love as we open our ears, our minds, and our hearts to the transformative message you have in store for each of us. Amen.

✧ **Bible Wisdom Teaching**

Mark 10: 2-16

2 Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, ‘Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?’ 3 He answered them, ‘What did Moses command you?’ 4 They said, ‘Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.’ 5 But Jesus said to them, ‘Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. 6 But from the beginning of creation, “God made them male and female.” 7 “For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, 8 and the two shall become one flesh.” So they are no longer two, but one flesh. 9 Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.’

10 Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. 11 He said to them, ‘Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; 12 and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.’

13 People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. 14 But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, ‘Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. 15 Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.’ 16 And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

One: May we hear anew the origin stories of our faith and draw from the roots of our tradition.

All: **Thanks be to our God.**

✧ **Message “Family of Faith”** Rev. Trish Eckert

✧ **Reflection Questions**

- How is my faith community embodying and revealing God’s presence in the world?
- When there is conflict in my neighborhood, faith, or national community, do I hold the community in prayer and look for the good in each person’s motivations?

Queries excerpted from “Practicing Peace: A Devotional Walk Through the Quaker Tradition” by Catherine Whitmire

✧ **Short period of silent reflection**

✧ **Sharing Our Wisdom**

✧ **Our gifts of support**

**Offertory Hymn No. 36, vs 1, 3, GTG, “For the Fruit of All Creation”
Offertory Blessing**

✧ **Community Prayers & Pastoral Prayer**

✧ **Hymn No. 300, vs 1, 3, GTG “We Are One in the Spirit”
(v.3—“We will work with each other” on this work day)**

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

Welcome

Faith communities around the Earth gather to observe World Communion Sunday. Some call it Holy Communion, others refer to it as the Great Thanksgiving (Eucharist) or Lord’s Supper. Some place elements on an altar. In the Protestant tradition, we approach the Table. Every language and tongue, every tribe and nation, every continent and hemisphere represented as the Body of Christ accepts the invitation to unity around a meal prepared by the One who entered a body, the human condition, and the brokenness of the world. Let us join together in the name of Jesus the Christ to commune as one.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God, in your sovereign love, you reveal to us how to love one another, how to forgive each other, and how to be in community together. You created us to be in relationship with one another. We ask for your ongoing guidance and grace, that we may recognize when our hearts have hardened and to listen deeply to what is calling us to soften and open our hearts.

Jesus, in your grace, you have made real the ancient stories of God’s redemption and deliverance. You healed the sick, released the captives, and invited the outcast. We bear witness to how you are healing, releasing, and inviting us yet today. You call us siblings, sharing your birthright with us. For this we are thankful.

Holy Spirit, in your communion, you bind us to Christ and one another. You create in us hope for the future and strength for today. We pray for the Church around the world knowing that despite denominational, ethnic, language, gender, geographical differences, and even life and death, we are one Body as we share this meal.

✧The Lord's Prayer

**Eternal Spirit, Earth maker, Pain bearer, Life giver,
Source of all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven;
May the hallowing of your name echo through the Universe!
May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
May your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
May your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and may it come on earth.**

**With the bread that we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts that we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love.
Now and forevermore. Amen. *(New Zealand prayer book)***

Words of Invitation and the Breaking of the Bread

Here at this Table, all the world will find a welcome. It is time to set down the heavy load of sin and feelings of condemnation. It is time to believe and experience God's covenantal promises.

And it is time to let go of what divides us. This Table is meant to bring us into communion, and we do not get to choose who eats here. Jesus has said that they will come from the east and the west, the north and the south to sit at the Table of God.

Each time we share this meal, we proclaim that though we may deserve God's condemnation, we have received God's grace. We proclaim to ourselves and a world in need that love overcomes anything that threatens to separate us from God or one another.

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

O God, you have so greatly loved us, long sought us, and mercifully redeemed us. Give us grace that in everything, we may yield ourselves, our wills, and our works. May we be a continual thank-offering to you. In your name we pray, Amen.

Communion liturgy adapted from the work of Rev. Michelle Henrichs, excerpted from her book: *Come to the Table: Communion Liturgies of Invitation to Celebrate and Experience the Love of God* (2020)

✧ **Benediction**

May the Holy One be an ever present companion and partner
as you encounter the tests of life.

May your softened heart break over the pains, pangs,
and problems of the world.

May the strength of the Spirit fill you,
the power of the Spirit embolden you,
and the leading of the Spirit guide you
as co-creators of the kingdom of God...now and forever.

Go in abundant hope, peace and love. Amen.

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** “All That we Have—Gary Ault~Tippe Musicians