



# *Order of Worship*

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2024

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**Gathering and Welcome** *You Are My Hiding Place*

**Prelude** *Shine, Jesus, Shine* -- by Graham Kendrick

Jessye Whitis, pianist

**\*Call to worship** (based on Mark 10:35-45)

The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.

Let us follow Christ, not seeking glory, but ways to serve.

**Called to worship, we bow humbly before our God.**

**\*Opening Hymn # 724** *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

**\*Call to confession**

Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Let us embrace this time of confession with honesty and humility.

**\*Prayer of confession**

**Holy God, your truth is oftentimes hard to hear. We confess our avoidance, our purposeful distractions, our prideful arrogance that keeps us from hearing and responding to your Word. Although you send us messages and messengers, we dismiss and disregard those who tell us we are wrong. Have mercy upon us, Holy God. Open us to hearing the truth no matter how it is conveyed. Amen.**

**Assurance of pardon** (Book of Common Worship)

Hear the Good News!

Who is in a position to condemn?

Only Christ,

and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us,

Christ reigns in power for us,

Christ prays for us.

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.

The old life has gone;

a new life has begun.

Know that we are forgiven and be at peace.

**Amen.**

**Choral Anthem *Christ Beside Me* – by Tom Fettke**

**Prayer for illumination**

God of Wisdom and Grace, you speak through your Word read and proclaimed. Prepare us now to listen well. Open our ears to your truth. Humble us in your presence so nothing will stand in the way of what you say to us today. Amen.

**Scripture readings** Psalm 91: 9 – 16; Mark 10: 35 - 45

**Sermon** *To Follow Christ*

Elder Mark Kintner

**\*Affirmation of faith** (Book of Common Worship)

**Christ Jesus,  
though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form  
he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death—  
even death on a cross.  
Therefore, God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name,  
so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:  
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.**

**\*Hymn of Praise # # 320 *The Church of Christ in Every Age***

**Call for the offering**

Let us give and live generously in response to all that God has done for us. Let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

**\*Offertory** *Open Our Eyes/Be Thou My Vision* -- Arr. Mark Hayes

**\*Doxology # 606 *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow***

## **Prayer of dedication**

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. Amen.

## **Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer**

God of grace, nourish us this day through Word and worship. Strengthen our desire to discern and do your will. Focus us on your path of righteousness so we can walk steadily under your direction. Bend your ear to us, God of love, as we pray not only for ourselves but for people everywhere.

God of mercy, hear our prayers. We pray for those suffering the aftermath of natural disasters, for the lives, homes and businesses destroyed by hurricanes, tornadoes and earthquakes. We pray for those who are exhausted, those struggling to pay bills and put food on the table, those overwhelmed by suffering and in need of a lighter load. We pray for those living in war zones, people desperate for peace.

God of mercy, hear our prayers. We pray for leaders, administrators and decision-makers who cannot please everyone, yet still strive to do what is just and right. We pray for disputes to end, for people to work together, for our nation to know peace rather than polarization.

God of mercy, hear our prayers. We pray for those who are ill and their caregivers. We pray for those struggling with depression, anxiety and other mental illnesses. Free us from any shame or stigma that keeps us from acknowledging our need and getting the help all deserve. Instill in us a sense of mutual responsibility for the health and wellbeing of all your children.

Finally, O God, mold us for service so we can be the answer to the prayers we pray, according to your Word and inspired by the One who saves, Jesus Christ our Lord.

United as a family of faith and as the Body of Christ we lift these prayers up to you, God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Finally, hear us pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying, "**Our Father...**"

**\*Hymn of Sending # 203 *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love***

## **Charge and benediction**

May we leave this house of worship today, quick to listen, slow to speak, open to hearing and responding to God's truth.

May God bless us and keep us, be kind and gracious to us, may God look upon us with favor and bring us peace. Amen.

**Postlude** *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Jessye Whitis, pianist

*Presbyterian Outlook, 2024*

*Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott.*

*Sermon by Rev. Kirk Alan Kubicek,*

*Pastor of Christ Church, Forest Hills, Maryland.*