

CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 3, 2023 Livestream & In-Person 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Keith L. DeVries

Click **HERE** to register your attendance.

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP Jami McCray

Leader: We gather hoping to see God.

People: Here in worship, we realize that we see God in one another.

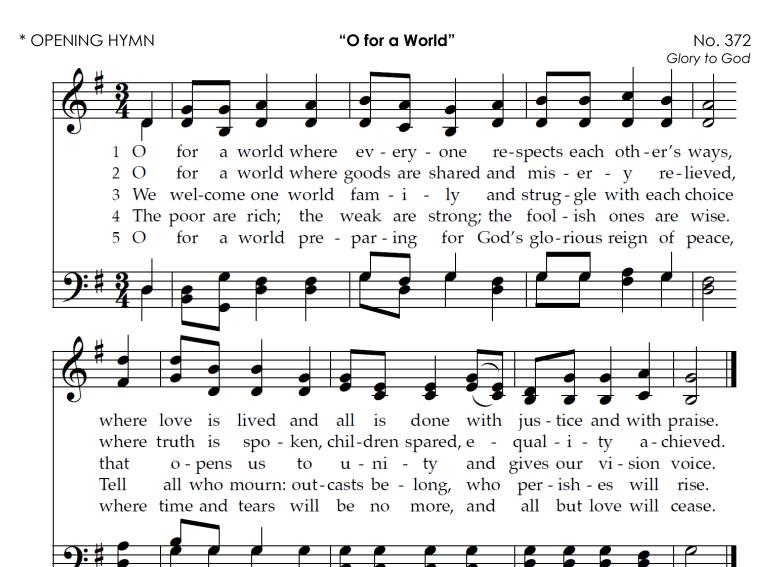
Leader: We can see God

People: when we show one another honor,

Leader: when we pursue hospitality to strangers, **People:** when we live in harmony with one another,

Leader: when we rejoice in hope.

People: Let us worship the visible God amongst us.



CONFESSION AND PARDON

Jami McCray

Leader: God wants us to be ourselves. But every time we hurt one another, or ourselves, we get further and further away from who we are. It is in our confession, in admitting the truth of our lives, that we can be our genuine selves again. Let us join in our prayer of confession together.

All: God of love, you ask us to love one another from the center of who we are. You tell us to bless one another; you encourage us to do good. But we have not listened to your words. Instead of loving, we have practiced hatred; instead of blessing, we have perfected cursing; instead of doing good, we have sought to get even. Forgive us for giving up. Give us grace to try again and encouragement to make your ways our ways. We pray, we wait, and we hope.

Silence

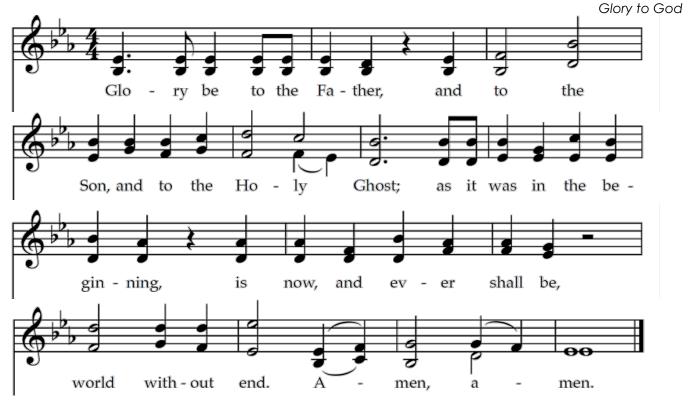
Leader: God's love for us is genuine. When we need it the most, God's grace washes over us, seeping into the cracks of our brokenness and saturating our thirsty

hearts. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

People: Amen.

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE "Glory Be to the Father (Gloria Patri)"

No. 581



TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(Children are invited to the front of the church. Afterwards, they may return to their seats to participate in Communion and the remainder of worship.)

* SONG

"Less Like Me"

Hank Bentley, Mia Fieldes, and Zach Williams

Oh, I have days I lose the fight
Try my best but just don't get it right
Where I talk a talk that I don't walk
And miss the moments right before my eyes

Somebody with a hurt that I could have helped Somebody with a hand that I could have held When I just can't see past myself, Lord help me be

A little more like mercy; A little more like grace
A little more like kindness, goodness, love, and faith.
A little more like patience; A little more like peace
A little more like Jesus, a little less like me

Yeah there's no denying I have changed I've been saved from who I used to be
But even at my best I must confess
I still need help to see the way You see

Lord, to feed the beggar on the street, Love to be Your hands and feet,
Freely give what I receive, Lord help me be
I want to put You first above all else, Love my neighbor as myself
In the moments no one sees, Lord help me be

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 12:9-21

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. 11Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 of it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' ²⁰No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' 21Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

SERMON **Authentic Faith** Pastor Keith L. DeVries

* SONG "In Our Midst" Jenny DeVries

> Lord, we take this bread. We eat remembering you Lord, we take this cup. We drink remembering you Every time we eat this bread, every time we drink this cup You are here in our midst.

You said this is the new covenant. This is the new covenant Sealed with My blood, your sins are washed away to let my love pour in

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor: This is the Lord's table to which Jesus invites us!

People: Let us participate fully and joyfully.

(If you are worshiping via live stream, place a plate with bread or crackers in your home worship space. Beside it set a cup with juice, wine, water, or other common beverage. With these elements we celebrate the shared presence of Christ that connects and nourishes our communion of faith.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: The Spirit is with us! People: We are not alone!

Pastor: Lift your hearts to God.

People: We open ourselves to the One who fills us with grace.

Pastor: Sing glad praises to God.

People: We offer to God our songs of praise.

PRAYER OF BLESSING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Pastor:

After laboring on the streets of Jerusalem – doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God – Jesus clutched bread in his hands. He blessed the food, gave thanks, and heartfully expressed to his friends that this was the bread of life, "As you eat this bread, remember me."

After supper, Jesus grasped the cup filled with the gifts of the vine. In his blessing, he reminded them of God's gift of forgiveness and of the faithful covenant sealed in his life's blood. He told them, "Whenever you drink of this cup,

remember me."

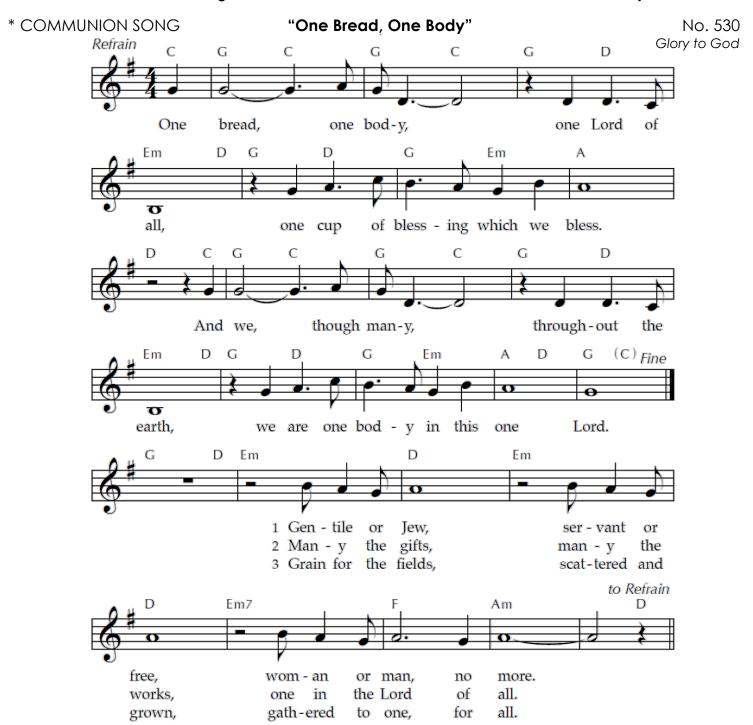
Holy Spirit of wisdom and wonder, labor through this table today. May it stir us to actively love God, our neighbors, and ourselves. As we partake of the bread and cup, transform us into the people God is calling us to be: Christ's body in the world.

People: So it is with gratitude that we gather at this table. As we partake of the bread and cup, let us experience the love of God made known to us in Jesus Christ. Let us share this feast together.

COMMUNION

(Wherever you are, in the Sanctuary or at home, you are invited to partake of the bread and the cup. If you are worshiping in person, please come down the center aisle to receive the communion elements; partake and return to your seat using the side aisles.

Servers will bring communion to the seats of those who cannot come forward.)



OFFERING & PRAYER

OFFERTORY "You Alone" Jack Parker & David Crowder

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

People: Our Father, who art in heaven,

Pastor: You are the first, the last, the everything in between. We lift our praise and our

prayers up to you because we know that you have been listening since the first

voice in the garden and we trust that you listen still.

People: hallowed be thy name

Pastor: Yours is the name that is above every name. Yours is the name spoken in all

languages. Yours is the name that echoes across all time and space.

People: thy kingdom come,

Pastor: May all of creation look more and more like your heavenly kingdom: a place of

peace, a place of love, a place everyone feels at home.

People: thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Pastor: Here in this place may love be genuine, may hospitality be given to strangers,

may we overcome evil with good, and may we live peaceably with each other.

People: Give us this day our daily bread.

Pastor: Allow us to taste and see, drink and remember, the goodness you have given

us. Allow us to trust rather than hoard so that no one goes hungry and no one

thirsts.

People: and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

Pastor: Give us as many chances as it takes to get it right, and may we give others just

as many chances as you have given us.

People: And lead us not into temptation,

Pastor: Guide us to stay on your good path even when it seems easier to curse than to

bless and more satisfying to seek vengeance than to build peace.

People: but deliver us from evil.

Pastor: Because we know evil has many forms. It shows up in test results as cancer; It

startles us in harsh words and policies; it arrives at our door as violence; and it bubbles up inside us as self-destruction. However and whenever evil shows up,

rescue us from it time and time again.

People: For thine is the kingdom,

Pastor: where we hope to live with you,

People: and the power

Pastor: that you showed us by taking on weakness.

People: and the glory,

Pastor: that we hope to reflect with our lives out into the world.

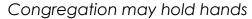
People: forever
Pastor: and ever.
All: Amen.

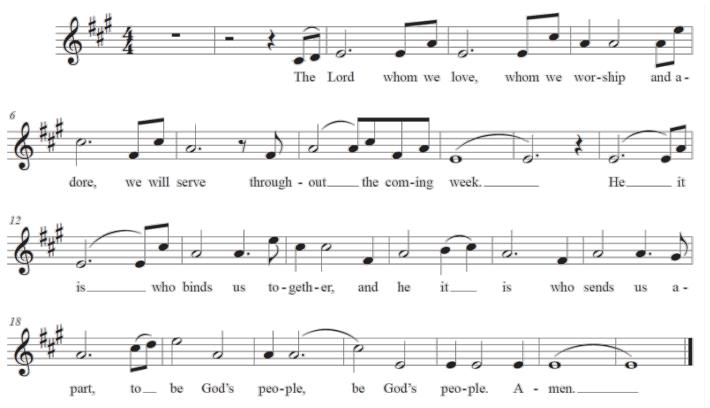
(If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.)



* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "The Lord Whom We Love"

Kurt Kaiser





* POSTLUDE

"O for a World" setting by Paul Manz, Op. 21 AZMON by Carl Gotthelf Glaser

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Call to Worship, Confession & Pardon, and Prayers of the People by Molly Spangler, © Presbyterian Outlook, 2023 Communion Liturgy by Michelle L. Torigian, adapted https://michelletorigian.com
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Audio/Video: Bruce MacLean and Noor Bitar

Music Director: Keith Atwater
Organist: Rick Schlosser
Piano: Gabe Bisho
Drums: Will Condrey

Bass: Merlyn Van Regenmorter Vocalists: Karen Gray and Julie Ueltzen

Guitar: Michael Schwab

