



*Lord, we thank you for the gift of
this global table where all are
welcome, and none are strangers.
As we eat this bread and drink this
cup, we pray that you would make
us one in you, regardless of our
languages, cultures or circumstances.
Amen.*



**WORLD COMMUNION
OFFERING**

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*Worshiping, serving, and living with a fresh vision of
God's vibrant energy and grace for all.*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

World Communion Sunday
October 4, 2026 // 10am

CENTERING WORDS:

Let the words of my mouth
and the meditations of my heart
be pleasing to you,
Lord, my rock and my redeemer.
Psalm 19: 14

ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE

PRELUDE

RINGING THE BELL & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

GREETING

All: The God of life be with you.

One: And also with you!

***GATHERING SONG** *Peace, Salaam, Shalom* (Bulletin/Screen)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: What does the Holy One require of us?

All: To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

One: Let us worship God together!

***OPENING PRAYER**

HYMN *We are Called to Welcome Strangers* (Vs 1,2) (Bulletin/Screen)

LITANY OF CELEBRATION:

One: Abraham and Sarah did not know whether their visitors meant harm or good,
still they opened their tent in welcome, and they were blessed.

From the stranger, we hear the good news of God's covenant love.

All: We praise you for the blessing of the stranger.

One: Boaz saw in Ruth not a project, but a partner.

From the stranger, we are given the lineage of Christ.

All: We praise you for the blessing of the stranger.

One: The man lay dying on the Jericho road until the stranger,
the Samaritan, came to his aid, sharing his resources and time.

From the stranger, we receive help and healing.

All: We praise you for the blessing of the stranger.

One: When the people of Israel were strangers in Egypt,
only as valuable as the bricks they produced for Pharaoh's economy,
God heard their cry and saved them.

When we are strangers, we come to know a God who frees us.

All: We praise you for the blessing of the stranger.

One: Christ hides in the face of the stranger,
reminding us that "I was a stranger, and you welcomed me."

In the stranger, we can experience the presence of Christ.

All: We praise you for the blessing of the stranger.

One: We are called in Scripture,
again and again,
to welcome the stranger
and the many blessings
that the stranger may bring.

**All: For the immigrant, the refugee,
the one we do not know,
we give our thanks and praise.**

**The family of God is worshiping God in many languages,
and following God in many cultures, all over the world.**

**May we receive the blessings you bring to us, Lord,
through the gift of the stranger! Amen!**

HYMN *We Are Called to Welcome Strangers* (Verse 3) (Bulletin/Screen)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: God, we confess that we do not know how to show true hospitality.

We are quick to welcome those we already know,

**All: and slow to open our doors to those
who seem different, unknown, or threatening.**

One: We are quick to guard what we have, to protect our assets,
to keep out those who might be a burden.

All: We are suspicious of the stranger.

One: Because of this, we confess
that we have missed opportunities to experience you.
For you were a stranger, seeking welcome.

**All: Forgive us, Lord, for failing to open our doors even to you.
Open our eyes to the stranger in our midst,
that we may experience your blessing
Through lives defined by hospitality. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Come, All You Children

ANTHEM

Salaam, Shalom

Mark Burrows

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 5: 1 - 7

One: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God!

Matthew 21:33–46

One: Holy wisdom, holy Word.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Parabolic Trap

Rev. Cathy C. Hoop

***HYMN** #36 *For the Fruit of All Creation*

RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE

LIFE AT FIRST

Please take this time to sign the red Friendship Pad found on the pew near you. If you have a prayer request, you are invited to fill out a prayer card (found in the pew-backs) and put it in the offering plate. The ushers will deliver it to the pastors.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY *World Communion Sunday*

***DOXOLOGY** #606

**All: Praise God whose image we all bear.
Praise Christ whose mercy we all share.
Praise Spirit making justice grow.
One God from whom all blessings flow. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

One: Praise be to God who calls us to imagine
and believe that another world is possible.

**All: We praise the One
who calls us into covenant
with one another.
May these gifts support the work
of bringing hope and wholeness to all our neighbors.**

One: God of all times and all places,
remind us of the world as You intend it:
free from hunger, poverty,
violence, and oppression.

**All: Embolden us, God,
to imagine and believe
that another world is possible! Amen**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Some choose to begin this prayer, "Our Creator," "Our Mother," or "Our Parent."

All: Our Father who art 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.

COMMUNION HYMN #530 *One Bread, One Body (Refrain only)*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: ...Therefore we praise you, joining the faithful who hunger and thirst for righteousness
and singing the hymn of the whole creation:

SONG #565 *Holy, Holy, Holy*

One: ...Remembering all that you have done in Jesus Christ,
we offer our lives to you with great thanksgiving
as we share this feast of love and grace.
Great is the mystery of faith:

SONG #566 *Christ Has Died; Christ Has Written*

One: ... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever. Amen

SONG #568 *Amen*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

***HYMN** #765 *May the God of Hope Go with Us*

CARRYING GOD'S LOVE INTO THE WORLD

***BENEDICTION**

***SENDING SONG** *Peace, Salaam, Shalom* (Bulletin/Screen)

Worship Leaders: Rev. Cathy Hoop, Rev. Dr. Paul Van Kempen, Beth Magennis, Kayla Reed, FPC Choir, Rose Gifford, Nancy Staal, Karen Howells. **Thanks to:** Greeter- Mary Bennett, Sound and Video- Tim Richardson, Ben Van Kempen, Ushers- Paul VanderKolk and his team, Bus Drivers- Alan Martens and Barb Schreur, M&M Café Providers- Larry and Priscilla Grinwis, and Janet and Vern Hostetler and Nursery Care Providers- Kiki Leman, Sandy Peterson, Corene and Lena D'Adonna.

Next Week: Ushers – Tom Ball and his team. Bus Drivers –Tim Staal and Chris Urbaniak Liturgist – Nancy Staal. M & M – Jan Zessin, and Paul and Sarah Anderson. Sound and video –Jon McFayden, Daphne and Nora Teutsch. Nursery – Kiki Leman, Linda Bassett and Lauren Stouffer

We Are Called to Welcome Strangers

Sheena Evans

Simon Hancock



We are called to wel-come stran-gers, of - fer shel - ter, food and rest;
Here we see our bro-thers, sis - ters, each the i - mage of our God,
If we fail to chal-lenge false-hood, if we bow to un - just laws,



heal the wounds of mind and bo - dy, show-ing love with true re - spect.
if we turn our fa - ces from them we de - ny the liv - ing word.
then the stran-ger's eyes will show us God's own eyes which weep for us.



Those who flee from war-torn home-lands, or fear death for their be - liefs;
God would have us feed the hun - gry, free the cap-tive, tend the weak,
Let us pray as Je - sus taught us, "Fa-ther, let your kin-dom come",



those who run from flood or fam - ine, will we meet them in their grief?
care for all who now are help-less, of - fer re - spite to the meek.
and with Christ-like lov-ing kind-ness we will wel-come stran-gers home.

Peace, Salaam, Shalom

Pat Humphries and Sandy Opatow

Peace sala-am sha-lom Peace sala-am sha-lom

peace sala-am sha-lom peace sala-am sha-lom

The musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with the first line in title case and the second line in lowercase.

568

Amen

Capo 3: (Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (D) (A)

Gm F B^b Cm Gm D E^b F C

A - men, a - men, a - men!

(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (Bm7) (E)

Gm F B^b Cm Gm D E^b Dm7 G

A - men, a - men, a - men!

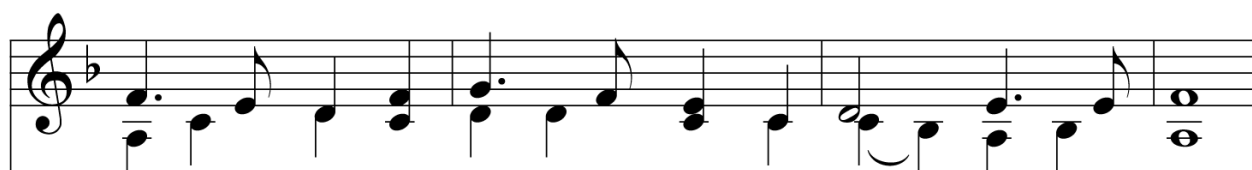
The musical notation is in 4/4 time with a key signature of three flats. The melody is simple, using quarter and half notes. Chord symbols are provided above the staff for both parts. The lyrics are written below the staff.

For the Fruit of All Creation

36



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will be done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For the gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will be done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de -
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con -



sleep - ing, fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 spair - ing, in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will be done.
 found us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

530

One Bread, One Body

Refrain



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of



all, one cup of bless - ing which we bless.



And we, though man-y, through-out the



earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.



1 Gen - tile or Jew,	ser - vant or
2 Man - y the gifts,	man - y the
3 Grain for the fields,	scat - tered and



free,	wom - an or man,	no more.
works,	one in the Lord	of all.
grown,	gath - ered to one,	for all.

565

Holy, Holy, Holy

Capo 3: (Em) Gm (D) F (C) E^b (D) F (Em) Gm (Am) Cm

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

(Em) Gm (Am6) Cm6 (B7) D7 (Em) Gm (D) F

pow - er, God of might, heav - en and earth are

(C) E^b (D) F (Em) Gm (Am) Cm (D) F

full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

(Em) Gm (D) F (Em) Gm (D) F (C) E^b

high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the

(D) F (A) C (Am) Cm (D) F

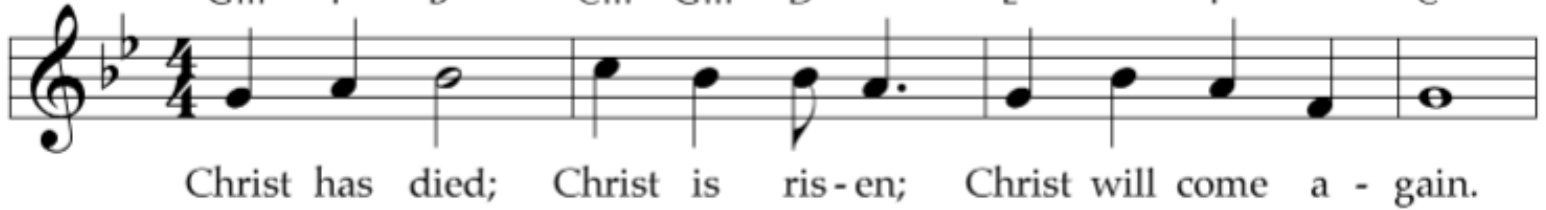
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

(Em) Gm (Am) Cm (D) F (Bm7) Dm7 (E) G

high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Christ Has Died; Christ Is Risen 566

Capo 3: (Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (D) (A)
Gm F B $\flat$ Cm Gm D E $\flat$ F C



(Em) (D) (G) (Am) (Em) (B) (C) (D) (Bm7) (E)
Gm F B $\flat$ Cm Gm D E $\flat$ F Dm7 G



May the God of Hope Go with Us 765

Song of Hope / *Canto de esperanza*



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill - ing all our
¡Dios de la es - pe - ran - za, da - nos go - zo y paz! Al mun - do en



lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus - tice speed us
cri - sis, ha - bla tu ver - dad. Dios de la jus - ti - cia, mán - da -



on our way, bring - ing light and hope to ev - ery land and race.
nos tu luz, luz y es - pe - ran - za en la os - cu - ri - dad.



Pray - ing, let us work for peace; sing - ing, share our joy with all;
O - re - mos por la paz, can - te - mos de tu a - mor.



work - ing for a world that's new, faith - ful when we hear Christ's call.
Lu - che - mos por la paz, fie - les a ti, Se - ñor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

World Communion Offering // Today is World Communion Sunday, and we traditionally receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering on this day. This denominational offering has been renamed...and it will be easy to remember: the World Communion Offering. The recipients of the WCO are engaged in racial justice, gender justice, peacemaking, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith relations. Look for bulletin inserts to learn more about this vital denominational work.

Men's Book Group // We meet on the second Monday of the month at 2:30pm at FPC. Our next meeting is October 12 discussing *Chicago's Great Fire* by Carl Smith. Questions? Contact Don Cowie.

Habitat for Humanity Work Date // Mark your calendar for October 15. Work dates often fill up quickly so plan accordingly. Contact Bill Haines with questions, wehaines@icloud.com

Presbyterian Women // We will meet on October 14 at 9:30am for Miriam Circle Bible Study in the Michigan Room. Please read 1 Corinthians 3 and 4 for this Lesson. *See you there!*

Memorial Service Planning Workshop // Tuesday, October 20th at 2:00PM - Fellowship Hall.

When you attend the memorial service for a friend or family member, do you ever think to yourself, "I would like to have that music played at my service." (Or maybe I don't want that read at my funeral!) We think about these things in the moment, but we don't always take time to write them down. When the time comes, it is so helpful to family members to have an idea of what their loved one wanted. Your input also helps the pastors create a service that is a genuine celebration of your life on this earth. Join Cathy and Paul for an opportunity to think through the various components of a memorial service, to ask your questions, and to take a moment to write down your ideas. If you have questions or can't attend but would like more information, please feel free to contact Cathy or Paul.

Trunk or Treat // Our annual Trunk or Treat will take place Sunday, October 25 at 12:15 in the parking lot. The kids (and any adults) can put on their costumes after Sunday school and collect goodies out of decorated car/van trunks. Sign up in the lobby if you would like to donate your trunk with candy or bring a fall dessert to share. A light lunch will be served.

STAFF

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DEACONS:

Class of 2027: Kristin Goddard, Lloyd Helder,
Michele Richardson, Leah Wallar

Class of 2028: Cathy Colten, Gail Hering,
Fred Mc Conkey

Class of 2029: Carleen Bauer, Marti Disler,
Mark Van Oostenburg

ELDERS:

Class of 2026: Luke Rund-Scott (Youth)

Class of 2027: Jen Laux Ludwig, Tom Salley,
Tim Staal

Class of 2028: Jon Kreple, Lauren Stouffer,
Chris Urbaniak

Class of 2029: Alana Cocanour, Paula Perkins

Children's Programming During Worship:

Children of all ages are encouraged and welcome to be with us during worship. If you prefer an alternative:

- Nursery: Newborn - 3 years of age. Available for the whole service.
- Celebration Time - 4 years of age through 1st grade. Available after Children's Time.

Education Offerings After Worship:

Education hour is from 11:15a -12:00p. *All are welcome to participate!*

- Adult Class - Michigan Room
- Youth - Youth Room
- Worship Center - PreK - 5th grade
- Nursery - Newborn through 3 years

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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FPC is a More Light congregation, celebrating the full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ individuals in life, ministry and witness of the PC (USA) and in society. You are welcome here, and you are loved. Learn more at MLP.org