

*First Presbyterian Church of Monroe  
Communion Sunday and  
Second Sunday after Pentecost  
June 6, 2021*



# Communion Sunday and Second Sunday after Pentecost June 6, 2021

## GATHERING

WELCOME

Bob Douglas

PRELUDE

OPENING SENTENCES

Lord, our eyes and ears are open, our hearts are ready. Shine your light on us as we celebrate your love and grace in our midst.

OPENING HYMN

“To God Be the Glory”

GATHERING PRAYER

Gracious God, we desire your light and truth above all else in the world. Help us to be faithful followers of the Christ, your Word made flesh. May we be healers and reconcilers, loving all that you have created and working every day for your justice. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

We are God’s beloved people. As we are held close to God’s heart, let us confess our sins to God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Loving and Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. We see a world undone by strife, torn by violence, in turmoil through fear, and separated by hatred. Yet you call us to walk the way of justice and peace.**

**Forgive us, Lord, for hesitating to follow you on this path because the cost seems too high, the direction too confusing, and the conditions too harsh. Forgive us our complacency in the face of injustice. Grant us clarity of vision to see your light shining through the darkness and the strength to follow, walking in your path as Jesus did.**

**In the power of your Spirit we pray.**

SILENT CONFESSION

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

As we have died with Christ, so also we live with him, dead to sin and alive to God in Jesus, the Christ. Friends, hear and believe the Good News, in the name of Jesus, our Savior, we are forgiven. **Amen.**

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Bob Douglas

A STORY FOR ALL AGES *(a time for children young in years or young at heart)*

## WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Creator God, open our hearts and minds to hear your word for our lives. May it light anew the Spirit of Wisdom within us, encouraging us to conform our lives to the life of Jesus.

**Amen.**

### SCRIPTURE

First Reading: Genesis 3:8-15

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Bob Douglas

Second Reading: Mark 3:20-35

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

“Perceptions”

Debra Davies

Rob plays meditative music after the sermon.

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH—The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### HYMN

“Taste and See”

### OFFERING

Bob Douglas

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### **EUCHARIST**

#### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Declaration of Faith, 6.5

Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!

We believe that at the Lord's Supper the community of believers is renewed by the memory of Christ's life and death, by his real presence in the power of the Holy Spirit, and by the promise of his coming again.

**Christ makes himself known to us in the breaking of bread.**

He offers us his body broken for our sake and his blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

**We accept his promises and gifts and depend on his life to sustain ours.**

In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving to the risen Lord who has conquered death.

**So we celebrate his victory here and now and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom.**

**Reunited around one loaf and cup, we receive strength and courage to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world.**

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Sisters and Brothers, 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 truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, Creator and Ruler of the universe. In your wisdom, you made all things and sustain them with your power. You formed us in your image, setting us in the world to love and serve you, and to live in peace with your whole creation.

**When we rebelled against you, refusing to trust and obey you, you did not reject us, but still claimed us as your own. You sent prophets to call us back to your way.**

Then in the fullness of time, out of your great love for the world, you came as a human being to be one of us, to redeem us and heal our brokenness. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels, with prophets, apostles, martyrs, and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty. In Jesus, born of Mary, your Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. In Jesus, you lived as one with us, knowing joy and sorrow. In Jesus, you healed the sick,  
fed the hungry,  
opened blind eyes,  
broke bread with outcasts and sinners,  
and proclaimed the good news of your kingdom to the poor and needy.

Dying on the cross, **Christ gave himself for the life of the world.**

Rising from the grave, **Christ won for us victory over death,**

Seated at your right hand, **Christ leads us to eternal life.**

We praise you that Christ now reigns with you in glory,

**and will come again to make all things new.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your spirit unite us with the living Christ and with all who are baptized in his name around the world, that we may be one in ministry in every place.

As this bread is Christ's body for us, **send us to be the body of Christ in the world.** By the fire of your spirit, O God, forge us into one church, many and different people, **together in Christ's embrace.**

Set our hearts aflame with a love for the truth and the desire to do your will,

**that our witness to Christ may burn brightly in lives of joyful discipleship.** Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory **and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal kingdom.**

Gracious God, all glory and honor are yours, now and forever.

## LORD'S PRAYER

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; 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 INSTITUTION

On the night of his betrayal, Jesus sat with his disciples at table. He took the bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Take, eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after the meal, Jesus took the cup, saying, “This is the cup of the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in remembrance of me.”

## DISTRIBUTION

*The ushers will pass cups containing a wafer and juice. After everyone has been served, we will partake of the bread together and then of the cup together. Those at home are invited to join with their own bread and juice so that all in the sanctuary and at home receive the elements together.*

The Bread of Life. *(all eat the bread/wafer)*

The Cup of Salvation. *(all drink the juice)*

## PRAYER

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, dedicating ourselves to the care of all your creation in the name of Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

## **SENDING**

HYMN

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”

## CHARGE AND BLESSING

Friends,

God is still speaking:

Love deeply, compassionately, with your whole self;

Listen more, speak less, and when you speak, speak the truth in love, following Christ’s example;

Forgive yourself and others, releasing the bonds of hatred;

Respect all persons and welcome them into the fellowship of Jesus Christ, believers or not;

The road to transformation is crowded with unexpected people and events, know the Spirit travels with you;

Find quiet in yourselves, listening for the rush of wind over the water and the rustling of the trees, for these are the voice of God;

Find humor where you can, laugh often and with abandon;  
Follow the rhythm of life; and  
Choose joy, always.

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HANDBELLS

POSTLUDE

### **Announcement**

#### **Summer Worship Time Change**

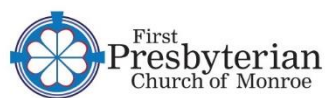
Worship will start at 10:00 a.m. beginning June 27 through September 5.

#### ***About our Guest Speaker this Sunday!***

*Debra Davies, M.Div., is a graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary (1998). She is a Ruling Elder of 40 years, having served four different congregations in that role as well as Clerk of Session in two congregations. She has long been involved in ecumenical activities, visited churches on three continents, and values the diversity of people of faith across Christian and non-Christian denominations and traditions.*

**FPC Monroe Worship Team**

Rev. Dr. Doris Chandler, Pastor  
Rob Edwards, Minister of Music  
Bob Douglas, Liturgist  
Isaac Fankhauser, Sound Team  
Josh McMann, Sound Team  
Randy Stiffler, Sound Team



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