

Worship on September 10, 2023 (CCLI: License Number #3156883)
(Welcoming Elder: Kevin Johnston)

Sunday Order of worship

We Gather

- Call to worship
- Praise song – BOP 65 All people that on earth do dwell
- Prayer for worship + Lord's Prayer
- Words of Assurance
- Praise song – BOP 373 Jesus loves me, this I know
- Time for our children and youth

We Listen

- Prayer for illumination
- First reading: Matthew 8:5-13
- Second reading: Psalm 86:6-10 (refrain 2)
- Third reading: Zechariah 8:20-22
- The Gospel Across the World: Presbyterian in Taiwan (Dr. Robert Revington)
- Communion
- Prayer for the people

We Respond

- Offering, Doxology (BOP 830 Praise God from whom all blessings vs. 1) & Dedication
- Song for the Journey – BOP 475 I am the church! You are the church!

We Serve

- Benediction

Responsive Call to Worship

Jesus said: You are the light of the world.

Let our light shine, giving glory to God.

Do all things for the sake of the gospel.

So may we share in the blessings of God.

He called out: Whom shall I send?

I answered: Here I am; send me.

Praise song – BOP 65 All people that on earth do dwell

Prayer For Adoration and Confession

God of grace and glory, Your creative power is beyond imagining. Your love is wider than the whole universe; your mercy reached beyond the highest heavens; your wisdom lies deeper than the fathoms of the sea. Maker of all things, you became one of us in Jesus Christ, walking the roads we take each day. Through your Spirit, you are present with us in every time and place, to comfort and challenge us. We worship you, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, and will live to bring you glory, now and always.

God of majesty and mercy, although Christ offers us peace, we confess we are a people divided.

We harbour fears and jealousy which set neighbour against neighbour, nation against nation. We pursue profit and pleasures which harm creation and the wellbeing of less privileged peoples. Have mercy upon us, O God. Set us free from our old ways to serve you as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

This time we come to you in prayer that you taught us how to pray: (The Lord's Prayer:)
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. **Give us today** our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. **Save us** from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. **For the kingdom**, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Words of Assurance

The Apostle Paul challenges us to lay aside actions and deeds that distance us from God and one another and to put on the armour of light.

Know that you are forgiven by God's grace. So walk in God's forgiving mercy and be in his light. Be at peace with God, Be at peace with yourself and Be at peace with each other.

May the peace of the Lord be with you. Let us take few moments to greet each other and share this joy of our Risen Lord.

**** Announce the change of the children's prayer time ****

Praise song – BOP 373 Jesus loves me, this I know

Prayer for children and youth (Children and youth, please come up to the front.)

Prayer for Illumination:

God of Word and Wisdom, send us your Holy Spirit, so that by your light, we may see clearly what you call us to be and to do. Engage us by your truth so we know how best to follow Christ Jesus, your living Word. Especially, today, Dr. Robert Revington will share his trip to Taiwan with Presbyterian church in Canada. Through his sharing, may your love and grace be experienced amongst us as well. We stand before you with humble hearts. Be with us. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

First reading: Matthew 8:5-13

Second reading: Psalm 86:6-10 (refrain 2)

Third reading: Zechariah 8:20-22

"This is the word of the Lord / Thanks be to God."

SERMON: The Gospel Across the World: Presbyterian in Taiwan

Communion At The Lord's Table This is the time for Communion at the Lord's Table. Jesus said, I am the bread of life. Those who come to me will never be hungry, and those who believe in me will never be thirsty. No one who comes to me will I drive away. Come to the table. Jesus is welcoming all of you with his open arms.

As we join the Lord's Table, let us confess our faith with the Apostles' Creed.

The Apostles' Creed (BOP 539)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

(Great Prayer of Thanksgiving:) (Please say BOLD print together)

L: The Lord be with you. **P: And also, with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts. **P: We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **P: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

L: God of love and grace, you are the vine and we are the branches. We trust your promise. Apart from you, we can do nothing. You are our source of life and strength. You share your life to us. We praise you and worship you for your life-giving love. Help us share this love and give us courage to invite our loved ones so that they too experience your love and grace. With hope and expectation for you, with all the created beings in the past, in the present, and in the future, we join in worship. **We lift our hearts in joyful praise:**

(Sanctus) Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of Your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

L: We praise you, God. You are the most holy God. You are the most loving God who sent your one and only Son Jesus Christ to give us life, to deliver us from the power of death, to display your goodness to the whole universe. You called us light to shine your love and power. Lord Jesus, thank you for saving us and thank you for sharing our joys and sorrows. As we celebrate the friendship with you, **we proclaim the mystery of faith:**

P: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

L: Indwelling Holy Spirit, teach us your wisdom. Give us courage to follow your steps. Here we offer ourselves to be a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to you. In your mercy, accept our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Fill us with the joy of eternal life, that we may be your faithful people until we feast with you in glory. Through Christ, by Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the BREAD and Pouring the WINE – prepare your Bread and Wine

“This is the **body** of Christ, broken for you.” (BREAD)

Take, eat, remember, and believe that the precious body of our Lord Jesus Christ was given for the complete forgiveness of all our sins. (Let us take it)

“This is the **blood** of Christ, poured out for you.” (CUP)

Take, drink, remember, and believe that the precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ was shed for the complete forgiveness of all our sins. (Let us drink it)

Prayer after Communion:

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace. Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love.

You are good, all the time. Every good and perfect gift comes from you, Father of lights. Thank you for calling us your children. Thank you for inviting us to your presence. Thank you guiding us each and every day of our lives. There are joys and sorrows in our lives. In all those moments, help us remain in you. Bind our wandering hearts to you. Hold our faith with your strong arms. Let our joy of salvation continue to be in our hearts. Let your love overflow in our hearts, so, without our knowing, let your love be flow to our surroundings and let your light be displayed in our lives.

We remember McCreery's family. Loving God, be with the family with your encouragement. Fill their hearts with peace. Also, embrace them with the hope that we are only sojourners. Help us acknowledge our true home. Help the family more connected with the people who can support and guide their future steps.

Thank you for Dr. Robert Revington for sharing his experience. Your word is powerful. Your word is truth. It does not have any boundary. Your truth is timeless. Your word can be applied to all generations. Gracious God, thank you for giving us your truth. Guide us and Robert become the faithful disciples of your truth. Help us bear witness to our surroundings. Fill our hearts with passion for your truth. Always be with us with your unchanging love.

Bless our church. You purchased this church with your precious blood, with your life. Let our church carry on your life and spread out your love within us, to each other, and to outside, to our loved ones. We pray that we glorify your name through our lives. Hold our hands and walk with us. In Jesus' precious and powerful name, we pray. Amen.

Invitation to the offering: This is the time for offering. God calls us to show our love through the kindness we offer to our neighbours. Our offering will spread the gifts God has given us to neighbours in need in the name of Christ, our Lord. As we offer our gifts to God, let us praise God and glorify him.

The Doxology (BOP 830 Vs. 1)

Offering prayer:

Gracious God, receive these gifts, offered in a spirit of generosity and humility. Bless and use them for the work that you long to do in the world you love. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.

Song for the Journey – BOP 475 I am the church! You are the church!

Now, it is the time for us to be sent to the world. We have truth in our hearts. We are loved and we are belong to God. Fill your heart with the truth of God and love of God. And let your love be overflowing to your surroundings and let your light be shining to the world.

Benediction: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, And the Love of God, And the intimate fellowship of the Holy Spirit, Be with us all, now and always. Amen.