

Worship for 03 October 2021
Gregory Memorial Presbyterian Church

One: To my sisters and brothers I will tell your glory:

ALL: O Lord our God, how majestic is your name!

One: In the congregation I will sing your praise:

ALL: O Lord our God, how majestic is your name!

*Hymn of Invitation #20 – “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you created us to live in relationship with you, to love and serve one another, and to care for all your creatures. Yet, in the hardness of our hearts, we dismiss your commandments and seek to go our separate ways. Lord, have mercy on us. Redeem, restore, and re-create us, for the sake of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Scripture – Genesis 2:18-24; Mark 10:2-16 (see reverse)

Reflection – “Partnered Relationship”

Prayers of the People & 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 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.

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology #606

Affirmation of Faith

*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.

Celebration of The Lord’s Table (World Communion Sunday)

*Hymn of Thanksgiving #197 – “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

Announcements & Blessing

-Called Congregational Meeting following worship Sunday, October 3

Genesis 2:18-24

Then the Lord said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to the man to see what he would call them; and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle, and to the birds of the air, and to every animal of the field; but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Mark 10:2-16

Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to him, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two, but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate."

Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery."

People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

#20 – “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

1) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings, God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings.

2) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. The purple-headed mountain, the river running by, the sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.

3) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun, the ripe fruit in the garden, God made them every one.

4) All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small, all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all. God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.

TEXT: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848, alt.; public domain.

#197 – “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

1) Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

2) From Olivet they followed ‘mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, the chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.

3) “Hosanna in the highest!” That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice, and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.

TEXT: Jennette Threlfall, 1873, alt.; public domain.

MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der Herzogl, Wirtembergischen Katholischen Hofkapelle*, 1784, alt.; public domain.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us pray:

All: Loving God, through your goodness, we have this bread and cup to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. May we know your presence in the sharing of this bread, so that we know your touch in all bread, all matter. We celebrate the life that Jesus has shared among his community through the centuries, and shares with us now. Made one in Christ and one with each other, we offer these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living sacrifice. Amen.

One: Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread ... [*Minister continues ...*] The gifts of God for the people of God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE [From pews]

One: Let us give thanks together:

All: We offer you praise, dear God, and hearts lifted high, for in the communion of your love Christ comes close to us, and we come close to Christ. Therefore, with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea and sky, we sing to you. And with our loved ones, on earth and in your heavenly host, with brothers and sisters around the world, we join in the song of your unending greatness. Amen.

Adapted from the Iona Abbey Community, Scotland