

St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

World Communion Sunday

October 1, 2023

Rev. Tripp Brogdon, Pastor

Elder Stu Strong, Liturgist

Mavis Stephens, Choir Director

Dr. Jeff Gilbreath, Pianist

Prelude

Dr. Gilbreath

We Gather in God's Presence

Welcome

Call to Worship:

One: Sing to the Lord, whose mercy is from everlasting to everlasting!

All: *But how can we sing the Lord's song when so many are without?*

One: Sing to the Lord, whose faithfulness renews us every morning!

All: *But how can we sing the Lord's song when so many are gone?*

One: Sing to the Lord, who has not forgotten the melodies of salvation!

All: *Let us remember the joy of the Lord, and sing a new song together!*

*Hymn "My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep From Singing?)" #821

Gathering Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, mother of mercy, father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed, and in our envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride, and in our arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence, and in our discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished, too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us, again. Transform us, at this table, and for this table, and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen. (Silent Confession)

Hymn of Response "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" #547,v.2

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

*Gloria Patri

#581

We Listen for God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Elder Stu Strong

Scripture Reading

I Corinthians 23-32

Elder Stu Strong

*Hymn

"You Satisfy the Hungry Heart"

#523

Scripture Reading

John 6:32-67

Rev. Dr. Rich

Sermon

"Come To the Table"

Rev. Dr. Rich

We Respond to God's Word

Call for the Offering

Offertory

Dr. Gilbreath

*Doxology

#606

*Prayer of Dedication

Communion Anthem

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

Choir

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Breaking of the Bread and Sharing of the Cup

Prayer After Communion

We Are Sent Into the World

*Hymn

"God Be With You Till We Meet Again"

#542

*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Rich

Postlude

Dr. Gilbreath

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Bold and italic type indicates our shared response.

To Our Guests:

Welcome! It is a blessing to have you in worship with us today. We warmly invite your participation in the worship, fellowship, and ministry of our congregation. The pastor is available to answer any questions you might have after worship, by email or phone. There is a place for you here. A nursery is provided for children under the age of three.

Calendar:

Mon., Oct. 2 9:00 AM Color Group

Tues., Oct. 3 10:00 AM Presbyterian Women, "The Exorcism in Gerasa",
Luke 8:26-39. Lesson Leader: Nelda Gilbert

Mon., Oct. 9 HAD Lunch

Wed., Oct. 11 5:30 PM CONNECT Bible Study with Rev. Tripp

Live Streams and recordings of each week's worship service are available on our YouTube channel. For more information, visit us at www.standrewdecatour.org.

Scripture Reading, Elder Stu Strong: I Cor. 11:23-32

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be answerable for the body and blood of the Lord. Examine yourselves, and only then eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For all who eat and drink without discerning the body, eat and drink judgment against themselves. For this reason many of you are weak and ill, and some have died. But if we judged ourselves, we would not be judged. But when we are judged by the Lord, we are disciplined so that we may not be condemned along with the world.

Scripture Reading, Rev. Dr. Rich: John 6:32-67

Then Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world." They said to him, "Sir, give us this bread always." Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. Everything that the

Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day." Then the Jews began to complain about him because he said, "I am the bread that came down from heaven." They were saying, "Is not this Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, 'I have come down from heaven'?" Jesus answered them, "Do not complain among yourselves. No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, 'And they shall all be taught by God.' Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise

them up on the last day; for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. The Words of Eternal Life When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father." Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?"