

## WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

### CALL to WORSHIP

One: God created all races and nations of the world  
And willed that we thrive together in abundant living.

**All: We are one family in Jesus Christ.**

One: As we struggle for wholeness one relationship at a time,

**All: Jesus struggles with us.**

One: As we strive for peace one day at a time,

**All: Jesus strives with us.**

One: As we offer our gifts in worship,

**All: Jesus blesses us.**

One: Friends in faith, let us rejoice -

**All: For we have gathered from north and south,  
East and west to worship the Living God!**

### PRAYER of CONFESSION

**All: Merciful God, you gather us in and make space  
For every person, experience,  
And need at your table.**

**You call us to meet and understand our neighbors,  
But too often we shrink from your call.**

**You call us to do what is just,  
But we are afraid.**

**You call us to speak truth to power,  
But we find reasons to wait.**

**Forgive us, Jesus, and strengthen us  
To take up your call in its abundance.  
Transform our small ideas into expansive hope  
And meet us in every moment along your way,  
Gratefully we pray, amen.**

### ASSURANCE of FORGIVENESS

One: Have you known? Have you heard?

**All: No matter who we are  
Or what choices we have made,  
God always makes the choice to love us.  
No matter how tangled things may seem,  
We will never be separated  
From the strength of Jesus' love.  
For, through Christ, Our sins –  
All of them – are forgiven.**

One: Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

UNISON PRAYER for ILLUMINATION

All: **Reveal your presence to us this day,  
O God of light, love, and glory.  
May the brilliance of your presence  
Illuminate this place and may we, your people,  
To tell all of that we have heard. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE – Mark 14:22-24

SERMON

Rev. Ruth-Aimée Belonni-Rosario

THE SACRAMENT of HOLY COMMUNION

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**INVITATION**

One: Friends, this is the joyful feast of the people of God!  
They will come from east and west,  
and from north and south,  
and sit at the table in the kingdom of God.  
According to Luke,  
when our risen Lord was at the table with his disciples,  
He took the bread, and blessed and broke it,  
and gave it to them.  
Then their eyes were opened  
and they recognized him.  
This is the Lord's table.  
Our Savior invites those who trust him  
to share the feast which he has prepared.

**PRAYER of GREAT THANKSGIVING**

One: The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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

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

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise,  
eternal God, our creator.  
You have given us life and a second birth in your Spirit.  
Once we were no people, but now we are your people.  
From worlds apart, you gathered us together.  
When we go astray, you welcome us home.

Always, your love has been steadfast.

Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the choirs of heaven  
and with all the faithful of every time and place  
who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**All: 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.**

One: You are holy, O God of majesty,  
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord.  
In love with you and in compassion for all,  
Jesus healed and taught, challenged and comforted, welcomed and  
saved.  
He formed a community,  
promising to be with his disciples wherever two or three were gathered,  
and sending them on his mission of hope and healing in the world.

**All: Great is the mystery of faith.  
Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
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,  
that we may be one in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.  
Through Christ, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church, now and forever.  
Amen.

As Christ our Savior taught us, we are bold to pray:

**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.**

**THE BREAKING of the BREAD & SHARING of the CUP**

## THE PRESBYTERY COVENANT

**One:** Presbytery adopted a covenant calling our ministries together as churches in the Miami Valley.

This covenant is a reaffirmation of the promises Teaching and Ruling Elders have already made to each other in their ordination vows to share in government and discipline, serving in the governing bodies of the church. It also serves as a new means of commitment to each other.

At its heart, this covenant is an invitation to build relationships with other Christians.

**All:** **The church as the community of disciples is bound together in covenant and united as the body of Christ. While the call to ministry from the Holy Spirit may be understood in a diversity of form and expression, the church commits itself to connectional relationship as the Apostle Paul reminds us:**

*For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we are all baptized into one body.*

In covenant, the presbytery is the community of congregations gathered for particular ministry and shared calling. Ministry occurs among the disciples of the visible church within the covenant instituted by God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Thus, the church is dependent upon God, as well as upon other congregations of disciples, in witnessing to the in-breaking of God's Kingdom into our world. It is by this act of covenant that the presbytery itself comes into life.

The presbytery prepares, equips, nurtures, and connects congregations in their ministries for God's mission.

## BENEDICTION

**All:** We gathered in peace to give God praise.  
We gathered in joy to give God thanks.  
We gathered, by God's amazing grace,  
To experience a love that we can  
Neither outgrow nor outlive.

So we go forth in Christ's name,  
To calm uneasy spirits;  
To heal the broken-hearted;  
To lift up the down-trodden;  
To proclaim Jesus' message of love  
And hope in the world.

For in so doing, we are being transformed,  
Now and forevermore, Amen.