

First Presbyterian Church ~ October 6th, 2024



World Communion Sunday



PRELUDE MUSIC

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Minute For Mission: Peace & Global Witness Offering

Hymn Story: We Are One In The Spirit

The year was 1966. The priest's name was Peter Scholtes...a parish priest at St. Brendan's on the South Side of Chicago in the 1960's. He worked with the youth choir, and he knew that there was an urgent need to find a song that the young people could sing at ecumenical, interracial events.

A song that revealed what their church's stance was on the Civil Rights Movement. He searched for several weeks for the right combination of the (then) popular folk music style that, also, encompassed simple but powerful lyrics of universal acceptance that could be used at (the increasingly sought-after) folk masses.

Finding nothing, he wrote the song in a single day.

Soon after it was performed by his youth choir; it quickly became the companion to "We Shall Overcome" ...the mantra of the Civil Rights Movement.

One woman, who was a youth at St. Brendan's in the sixties and who was one of the first to sing the song... later passed down a poignant story that she shared with her son about the first night it was sung....

The youth choir, unknowing to Scholtes, decided to change one word in the lyrics and it brought tears of joy to their choir leader (and composer) during the performance.

*We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love
They will know we are Christians by our love*

When the choir got to the third line that read... "And we pray that all unity may one day be restored" the choir changed the words... from one day...to THIS DAY and sang it out loudly!.

Earlier the youth had discussed the possibility that people opposed to the civil rights movement might use "one day" to mean in the next world...but not here and not now.

GATHERING HYMN

#300 We Are One In The Spirit (Vs 1,2)

KYRIE

(Our confession is also our act of love for the God who already covers us in grace.)

***I Love You Lord And I Lift My Voice To Worship You
Oh My Soul, Rejoice...***

CONFESSION of Need (Responsive)

Gracious God, who made covenant with our ancestors,

We gather here today as a rebellious people.

We want to act out your intentions for us,

But we get sidetracked by the false glitter of the world.

You tell us to honor Creation

But we use other people, animals, and plants for our own gain.

You offer bread to every living creature,

And we allow our brothers and sisters to go hungry while adding blame and judgement.

You promise us a different way of living,

But we shrink back in fear, clinging to our death-dealing ways.

Heal and change us, O Lord, lest we destroy ourselves and the planet.

We need your healing presence among us,

That your good intentions for all might be fulfilled at last in us.

Through Jesus Christ we pray, Amen.

KYRIE

Take Joy My King

In What You Hear

May it be a Sweet, Sweet Song

In Your Ear.

SILENCE for confession and resting In God's grace.

DECLARATION OF GRACE (responsive)

People of God, you are forgiven. Which means you are free to release the habits of the past and choose new ways for the future. May they be the way of Jesus. May you be transformed by his grace.

Hallelujah and Amen!

RESPONSE HYMN

#300

We Are One In The Spirit (Vs. 3,4)

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

Let us share a sign of God's peace with one another.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (Unison)

Holy Spirit, help us hear your voice beyond our inability to hear and understand your word beyond any speaker's ability to explain. Through your word, speak to our hearts even if our heads are not ready to listen.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Shared

SCRIPTURE READING 1..... Psalm 133

READING 2..... John 17: 20-23

*Leader: The word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God!***

SERMON.....**Rev. Michael Ozaki**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Prayed

Lord in your Mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**

COMMUNION HYMN:

We Come To This Table

(Tune From: #335 “We Gather Together”)

We come to this table, O God, with thanksgiving.

We lift up our hearts, we remember, we pray.

We hear Jesus’ welcome-- inviting, forgiving;

We know your Spirit’s peace as we feast here today.

We dine at your table as sisters and brothers,

Diverse in our cultures yet nourished as one.

The bread and the cup that we share here with others

Are gifts uniting all who are claimed by your Son.

We grieve for your world here; we cry, “How much longer?”

We pray for the cycles of violence to cease.

Yet here, in Christ broken, we’re fed and made stronger

To labor in his name for a world filled with peace.

We rise from this table with new dedication

To feed the world’s children, to free the oppressed,

To clear out the minefields, to care for creation;

We pray, O God of peace, that our work will be blest.

Communion:

- Invitation
- Prayer of Thanksgiving
- Words of Institution
- Communion of the People
- Prayer



BLESSING AND CHARGE (Responsive)

Beloved children of God receive the gift of the Holy Spirit, the grace of Jesus Christ, and the blessing of the Lord forever.

Alleluia! Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

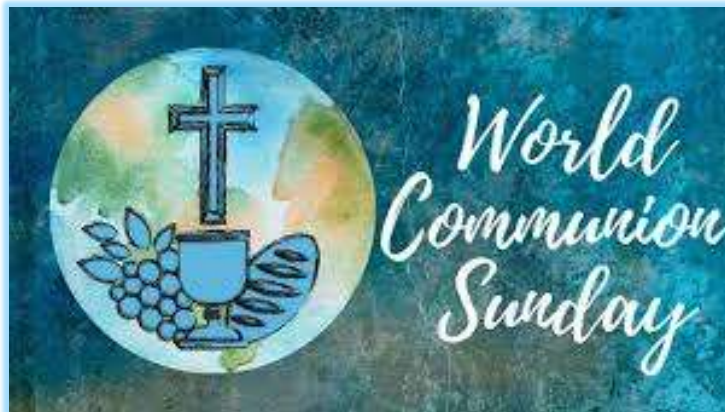
#634

To God Be the Glory

DISMISSAL (Responsive)

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

POSTLUDE



A Warm Welcome to our Guests and Visitors!

If you are interested in finding out more about the church community or are interested in becoming a member, please contact us at:

Pastor – Rev. Michael Ozaki

Cell: 951.532.5105

PastorOzaki@gmail.com

Office Administrator – Anne Kopecky Office: 218-281-4853

E-mail: office@crookstonfirstpres.org

Check out our Website: www.crookstonfirstpres.org

Sunday- October 6th

10:45 am

Worship

11:45 am

Coffee Fellowship

12:00 pm

Ushers & Greeters..... Dan & Laurie Wilson

Pianist..... Sandy Perkins

Music Director..... Sandy Perkins

Reader..... Sandy Perkins

Communion Serving & Prep..... Lori Folkers & Laurie Wilson

Wednesday, October 9th

6:00pm – Bell Rehearsal

Thursday, October 10th

1:00pm- Book Study

Next Sunday- October 13th

10:45 am

Worship

11:45 am

Coffee Fellowship

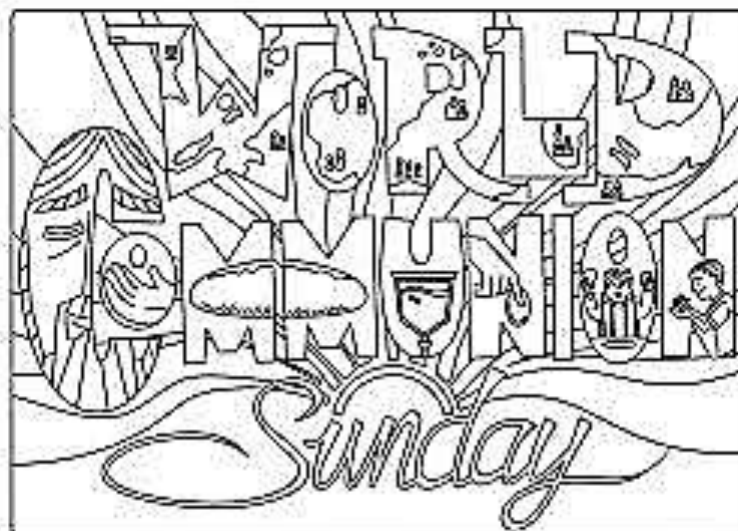
Ushers & Greeters..... Wayne & Lori Folkers

Organist..... Hazel Mendez

Music Director..... Sandy Perkins

Reader..... Ralph Pester

Special Announcements!



www.newdonkey.com



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OCTOBER 6, 2024