



Family of faith,
as you come to this place
—as you leave this place—
may God grant you
the curiosity to counter assumptions,
the vulnerability to befriend,
the bravery to speak your truth,
the wisdom to listen,
the strength to ask for help,
the resiliency to choose love
(even when it's hard),
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit
who is always beside you.
In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself.

st. John's

August 6, 2023

WELCOME

We are so happy you are with us. Please add your voice and heart to the prayers. Help others find a place and greet the person next to you as we prepare to worship together. Please stand and sit as you are comfortable.

I've been meaning to ask ...

Some of the best conversations start with good questions—questions we've been meaning to ask, questions that keep us curious, and questions that lead us deeper into courage and connection. On July 23, we began a series around four guiding questions: *"Where are you from? Where does it hurt? What do you need? Where do we go from here?"*

These questions aren't surface level; they invite us to tell our stories, share our pain, care for one another, and dream about a new way forward together.

Week 3: What do you need

This week's question recognizes that we all have needs and that **we need each other**. It reminds us that we each have unique needs; we can't assume to know what is best for others. It also prompts us to reflect on our own needs, priorities, and desires, which can sometimes be difficult to discern from one situation to the next.

In the midst of Job's afflictions, three of his friends promptly leave their homes and come to him. They tear their garments, weep loudly, and sit with him for seven days, saying nothing. Their response is the ministry of presence, of true solidarity, of seeing his excruciating pain and joining him there. Beaten and imprisoned, Paul writes to Timothy with a simple request: "Come quickly." He lists those who abandoned him, but says, "I hope that God doesn't hold it against them!" In his greatest moment of need, Paul doesn't need revenge, but instead asks for companionship. In essence, this is what we all need—for someone to come quickly, to gather the items we want, and to simply show up.

And, in these next weeks, **we wish to avoid glorifying a false sense of unity** that glosses over or ignores inequities and real harm done – we come from the garden, but it isn't a rose garden. We acknowledge how marginalized groups and individuals who've survived trauma are often urged to forgive and forget without accountability or repair; we want to avoid perpetuating this pattern. We trust you will be mindful of this dynamic during this series.

ministers

Sound	Oscar Trevino
Greeter	Doug Ramier
Greeter	Mary Dillivan
Worship Leader	Kim Dillivan
Reader	Scott Larsen
Reader	Rob Koelling
Preacher	Jessica Reynolds
Intercessor	Charlotte Patrick
Presider	Susan McEvoy
Communion Server	Barb Morales
Communion Server	Jim Morales
Communion Bread	Laurel McKeen
Coffee Hour	Barb Roberts and Diana Anderson

prayer concerns

Anglican Cycle of Prayer: The Province of the Anglican Church of the Congo
Diocesan Cycle of Prayer: St. Andrew's, Atlantic City;
Oregon Trail Memorial, Eden

Hugh B. & Marge; Lee & Kelly; Hunter & Charlotte; Shirley & Deb; Richard & Jennifer; Tim & Lynnae; Robin & Mark; Margie & Josey; Bobbi & Bentley; Bob & Charlotte; Ann & Martha; Brandon & Diedre; Rob R., Kathy E., Nelson, Tammy, Rob K., Bobby B., Larry, Alex, Irene, Nancy, Alan, Katy, Marlynn, Sue, Kahli, Ron and Jane	Justin, Jacob, Patrick, Reece, Coleman, Bryce and Nathan who are serving in the military. Bennett who is living and studying in Japan. Josephine and Don who reside in care centers.
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celebrations

August Birthday: Rowene Weems—8th
August Anniversary: Mark & Jessica Smith—9th

prelude

"I Will Follow You Into The Dark," Miya Folick.

hymn



1. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here,
2. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold,
3. To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest,
4. We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice;



To show Com - pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear,
To feed the poor and shel - ter home - less cold,
To speak for all the bro - ken and op - pressed,
To serve your peo - ple is our call and choice,



To be your heart of mer - cy ev - er near,
To be your hands, your jus - tice to up - hold,
To be your voice of hope, your love ex - pressed,
And in this mis - sion we, the Church, re - joice,



(1.-4.) al - le - lu - ia!

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gathering

God of long winters and longer summers, come to us.

**Come to us in our praise and joy,
appear to us in a still, small voice.**

Come to us through friends,
or come to us through strangers.

**Come to us in this hour of worship,
and come to us quickly if you can.**

We are seeking you.

We are always seeking you.

Today we are together.

Holy God, gather us in.

confession

Loving God,

We have spoken without listening,
assumed without knowing,
offered without asking,
and rushed without waiting.

Forgive us for assuming the place you fill.

**Forgive us for imagining that we, in our humanity,
could possibly fix all the hurt in this world.**

**Give us the grace and the strength
to stand by our companions in their moments of need,
to witness their hurt without trying to fix it.**

You are God. We are not.

Teach us how to be a friend.

Teach us how to ask, "What do you need?"

Teach us how to point to you.

Gratefully we pray.

Family of faith, hear and believe the good news of the gospel:

Every day is a new day for love.

Thanks be to God for growth and for grace that knows no end.

Amen.

scripture readings

We sit.

It is good and pleasant when all God's people live in unity. --Ps. 133:1

Loving God, draw near to us and join us together, that we may be one in you.

Help us to hear and carry forward your message of hospitality and healing.

A reading from ____.

After the reading

Word of God, word of promise.

Thanks be to God.

sermon

hymn *We sing twice*

*Refrain



Love one an - oth - er as I have loved you. Care for each
oth - er. I have cared for you. Bear each oth - er's bur - dens.
Bind each oth - er's wounds; and so you will know my re - turn.

*Verses available in accompaniment books.

Text based on John 14-16; 1 Corinthians 13. Text and music © 1987, Robert J. Dufford, SJ.
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prayers

God of the here and now, you know how we need you, and how we need each other. This world seems to turn upside down, destabilizing us. In these moments, we are so grateful for your loving care and the stability of friends.

Gracious God, give us the eyes to see our neighbors and the wisdom to ask, "What do you need?" Help us to learn how to carve out space to truly listen to the suffering of the world, saying, God of the here and now, hear us.

We stand, kneel or sit. The intercessor continues, closing with

God of the present moment, gather us in and hold us close. Be with us in our waiting and in our praying. Be with us in our grief and our sorrow. Enliven our relationships, that we might be blessed with friends who support us and that we might be the friends who can bless others.

We ask all this in the name of the One who calls us to love. **Amen.**

peace

We stand.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

We greet one another in the name of God.

offertory

Be devoted to one another in love.

Honor one another above yourselves. -Romans 12:10

MUSIC

"Where Two or Three Are Gathered," Mallory McCraney.

great thanksgiving

We stand.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right for us to give thanks.

Wondrous and merciful God, we thank and praise you
because we did not choose you, you chose us.

You destined us to become your friends
from before the foundation of the world.

You showed steadfast love and faithfulness
to your covenant people
and remembered your promises in every generation.

Greater love has no one than you;
in Christ you laid down your life
and turned us from servants into friends,
and by your Spirit you raise us up
to be your beloved companions forever.

And so we gladly thank you,
with angels and all who sit at your right hand in heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Holy, holy, holy is the God of hosts.

The whole earth is filled with God's glory. Praise God!

Welcome the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Tender God, in Jesus you fully shared our humanity
as you expressed and embodied your full divinity.
Send your Holy Spirit on your people,
that impulse may turn to forbearing faithfulness,
need may become humble gentleness,
and good intentions may be fulfilled in sacrificial kindness.
By that same Spirit, bless these gifts of friend and neighbor that they may
become your church, and these offerings of bread and wine may be for
us the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ;
who at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks,
broke the bread and gave it to them, saying,

“Take, eat This is my body which is given for you
Do this to remember me.”

After supper he took the cup.

Again, he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying,

“Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, to remember me.”

Great is the mystery of faith.

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

Generous God, in Christ you show us what it means to love.

Bless your children with patience and kindness.

Dispel envy and pride, self seeking and anger. Turn our memory from the
wrongs of others into wonder at your forgiving mercy.

Protect us, empower us, inspire us, persevere with us,

that we may each find our vocation in the mission of your church,

and your church may discover its purpose in witness and service to your world,

and your world may enter its destiny as a unity of love,

until the day when prophecies, tongues, and knowledge cease,

and we see you face to face, and find love in you forever,

Creator, Redeemer, Spirit.

AMEN.

Lord's prayer

We pray together.

Our Father in heaven,

we pray that your name will always be kept holy.

We pray that your kingdom will come—

**that what you want will be done here on earth,
the same as in heaven.**

Give us the food we need for today.

Forgive our sins,

just as we have forgiven those who did wrong to us.

Don't let us be tempted,

but save us from the Evil One.

**For the kingdom and the power and the glory belong to you
forever and forever.**

Amen.

breaking bread

We break this bread

to share in the Body of Christ.

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

These are God's gifts for the journey.

We share them with our companions on the way.

COMMUNION

Please come to the table, whether you are single, married or divorced, drinking, using or sober, abled, disabled, or ill, gay, straight, or discovering, wealthy, getting by or in debt. Christ meets us all.

Approach the rail from the left aisle and take a cup; used cups go on the tray on the right. You may receive only bread or only wine. Our Eucharistic bread is handmade and robust. If you prefer a wafer, please tell your server.

MUSIC

“Farther Along,” Trio.

“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me,” Paul Zach (feat. Page Cxvi).

Gratitude

We stand.

Let us pray.

Good and loving God,

**We thank you for drawing us together,
uniting us at one table.**

**We thank you for the sustaining grace you offer us,
again and again.**

**We thank you for making yourself known to us
and revealing your love for us through this encounter.**

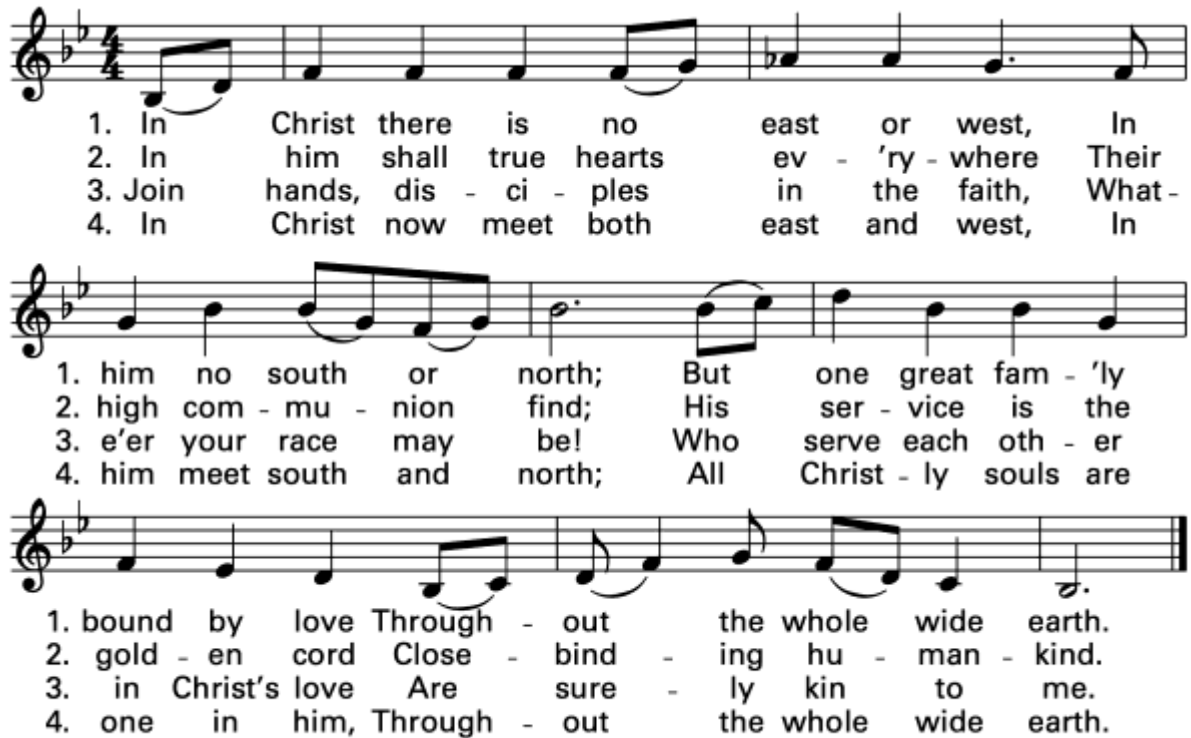
**We ask that you open our hearts ever wider
to you and to our neighbors.**

**We ask that our community be drawn together;
that we may be one with each other and with you.**

**We ask that we take forth from this table
the courage to ask the hard questions
that lead us deeper into communion,
that guide our efforts,
and that reveal where your Spirit
is already at work.**

Amen.

hymn Verses 1-3



1. In Christ there is no east or west, In
2. In him shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where Their
3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples in the faith, What -
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In

1. him no south or north; But one great fam - 'ly
2. high com - mu - nion find; His ser - vice is the
3. e'er your race may be! Who serve each oth - er
4. him meet south and north; All Christ - ly souls are

1. bound by love Through - out the whole wide earth.
2. gold - en cord Close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
3. in Christ's love Are sure - ly kin to me.
4. one in him, Through - out the whole wide earth.

Text: CM; Galatians 3:28; John Oxenham, 1852–1941. Music: Spiritual; adapted by Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949.

sending

Jesus said to his friends,

“This is my command: Love each other.”

We go with the love of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

postlude

“Count on Me,” Bruno Mars.

sources

This service and its themes come from Rev. Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org with the following exceptions:

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