

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla

Worship Service for the 14th Sunday after Pentecost

Sept. 17, 2025

Pre-Service Music: *Meditation #3* - John Turner

Welcome and Announcements:

Prelude: *Come Away to the Skies* - Tracey Craig McKibben

Introit #335: *The Foolish in Their Hearts Deny* Chancel Choir

Psalm 14

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance,

that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

Though the strong wind of judgment blows, all is not ended.
God will renew stubborn hearts and soften stiff necks,

for Jesus welcomed sinners and ate with them,

so we boldly come to make an offering of worship to the God
of mercy, who seeks and saves the lost.

Let us rejoice in the grace of our Lord!

Let us pray:

Prayer of the Day

God of grace and mercy, we thank you for disregarding our foolishness and teaching us your holy wisdom. Instill in us the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus, who rejoices whenever what was lost is found. Amen.

Opening Hymn #12 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* (stand)

Call to Confession

There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. Let the sound of our confession cause celebration in heaven.

**We fall short of who God calls us to be,
but we are never forsaken.**

In faith and with confidence as beloved children,

let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession

Create in us clean hearts, O God, cast out any transgression you find there—ransack, renovate, redecorate! Deep in our hearts, remove fearful features and restore your original design. The old lamps are dim; bring new light into the darkness. Make your dwelling place deep in our hearts, and teach us wisdom, so the hearts you transform may rejoice.

Declaration of Pardon

The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ came into the world to save sinners. Believe the gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are redeemed.

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Glory to God #583

Anthem: *Take My Life and Let It Be* Matthew Armstrong

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers.

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

Merciful God, pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy.

God of grace. **Receive our prayer.**

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer, who taught us to pray;

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

Hymn #634: *To God Be the Glory* (seated)

Prayer for Illumination:

**Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept you Word.
Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we
may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ
our Lord. Amen.**

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 32:7 – 14

Epistle Lesson: 1 Timothy 1:12 – 17

Gospel Lesson: Luke 15:1 – 10

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Seeking the Lost* Jonathan Kimball

Affirmation of Faith: 1 Tim. 3:16 (Revised Standard Version)

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: Christ Jesus was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings: (please be seated)

Offering #712: *As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought* v. 3

Prayer of Dedication: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

Help us to be generous givers, dear Lord, both of our money and our lives, that we might make a difference in this town. We ask this through your son, our Savior Jesus Christ who gave all that he was that we might know life in all its fullness. Amen.

Sending Hymn #436: *God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us* (stand)

Charge and Benediction: John Birch-www.faithandworship.com

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Choose Joy* - R. Kevin Boesiger

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