

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 6, 2026

Pre-Service Music: *Be Thou My Vision* Traditional Irish

Welcome and Announcements:

The Worship Committee working with the Way Forward Committee has made two slight changes to the worship service. Prior to the congregational joint Prayer of Confession there will be a time for silent reflection and confession. The second change is during the Prayers of the People. At the beginning of the prayers, individuals are invited to offer a petition of prayer to the congregation. You will be invited to speak your petition with a strong voice, as there will be no microphone, then conclude with the phrase “Merciful God”. The congregation will then respond with “Receive our prayer.” After time has been allowed for all to share their prayers, the Worship Leader will move on to the prepared Prayers of the People, which will use the same prompt and congregational response. We hope this adds additional meaning and increased participation in our worship together.

The Chancel Choir will be rehearsing on Wednesday evenings in the sanctuary from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. If you would like to share in this music ministry of the church, come to rehearsal. Next Sunday will be the first Sunday for the choir to sing after the summer hiatus.

Prelude: *More Precious Than Silver* Lynn DeShazo

Greeting Song #664: *Morning Has Broken* v. 1 and 3

Responsive Call to Worship/Prayer of the Day

A new song awaits us;

God’s Spirit is coming.

We can hear the music; we’re ready to move!

God’s praise will be on our lips!

Neighbors from far and wide will pour out from their doorways.

God's joy will be alive in the streets;

friends and strangers will gather.

All will rejoice;

together, we will breathe a deep sigh of peace

as we turn our hearts toward the justice of the Lord.

Prayer of the Day

God of goodness, when we gather, we are with you. Bind us together in your promise, that our dark nights will soon be over, and the brightness of day will be near. The hour has come. Salvation is here. Let us be your light. Let us be your love. Amen.

Opening Hymn #744: *Arise, Your Light is Come!* (stand)

Call to Confession/Prayer of Confession

Moment for silent reflection and Confession followed by joint Prayer of Confession.

Beautiful Savior, you have made your law clear: Love. Love one another. Owe one another nothing but love. Do no wrong to a neighbor. But we have not mastered what it is to love. We have fallen short, causing harm to others through careless action and thoughtless lack of action. Forgive us. Teach us how to love more fully, more perfectly, as generously as you love, following your law and fulfilling your will. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Christ does not judge us harshly but forgives all our sin and leads us into new life.

We will not take this forgiveness for granted, but will let it transform how we live and love.

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

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #581: *Glory Be to the Father*

Hymn of the Day #233: *The Day of Resurrection!*

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

(Please wait for the microphone if you have any updates to the prayer list, or joys or concerns to share.)

This Sunday we are going to try something new with the prayer portion of the service. **If you would like to offer an individual petition of prayer to the congregation, simply speak your petition with a strong voice as there will be no microphone, then conclude with the phrase “Hear us O God”. The congregation will respond with “Your mercy is great”.** After time has been allowed for all to share their prayers, we will move into the prepared Prayers of the People, using the same prompt and congregational response.

Petitions from the People:

Prayers of the People:

Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Offertory Hymn #711: *Lord of All Good* vs. 1 (seated)

Prayer of Dedication and Illumination:

Merciful and gracious God, you abound in steadfast love and faithfulness. With gratitude we bring our gifts to you. Bless these gifts and bless our lives that together we may share your mercy and grace for the world you dearly love. Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Scriptures for the Day:

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 33:7 - 11

Second Lesson: Romans 13:8 – 14.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 18:15 – 20.

Keep these words in your heart. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

Thanks be to God. Deuteronomy 6:6

Sermon: *What Does Love Require?* Susan Murray

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. **Amen.** *Revelation 21:6*

Communion music #497: *Bread of Life from Heaven* (refrain verse 2 refrain verse 3 refrain)

Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

... Therefore we praise you, joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

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!

Remembering your goodness and grace, we offer ourselves to you with gratitude as we share this joyful feast.

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

Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Dying you destroyed our death, rising you restored our life. Lord Jesus, come in glory.

According to Christ's commandment:

We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and cup; make us one in the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord. Teach us to set our minds on the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at your right hand. Make us ready to meet him when he is revealed in glory. Through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Spirit, we bless you, God of glory, now and forever. **Amen**

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

Sharing the Bread

Communion music #497: *Bread of Life from Heaven* (ref. vs. 1 ref.)

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sharing of the Cup

Communion music #497: *Bread of Life from Heaven* (ref. vs. 5 ref.)

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God. *(take the juice)*

Prayer After Communion

God of glory, in this holy feast you have made us one with Christ and with that great multitude of the faithful—those who hunger and thirst no more and worship night and day in your temple. Lead us in the paths of righteousness and guide us to the springs of the water of life, until we join the choir of the redeemed, singing: Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

Charge and Benediction

The blessing of the one God
—Spirit, Son, and Father—
be with you now and always. **Alleluia!**
Ephesians 4:4–6

Lead a life worthy of your calling,
giving glory to God in all things. **Amen.**
Ephesians 4:1

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

Postlude: *All Hail The Power of Jesus' Name*

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