

World Communion Sunday
 October 1, 2023
 Worship Series: Generous: The Beauty in Giving
 Message: Abundance is Communal and Connectional

Prelude *Let Us Break Bread Together* Franconia Musica

Welcome/Announcements Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Mission Moment A Night In Bethlehem

*Call to Worship

Pastor: Around the world, people gather to share the bread and the cup.

People: We gather around God's Table with people far and near.

Pastor: Come to the Table of the Lord.

People: We come, united in Christ's love.

*Song *Uyai Mose (Come All Ye People)* See Lyrics

*Opening Prayer Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Pastor: Let us pray

**People: In abundance of Your love, Lord,
 we gather with Christians around the world
 to share in the sacrament of Holy Communion.**

**As we come to Your Table of love and grace,
 remind us that You call us to live
 in community and connection with one another;
 through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.**

Children's Moment Linda Biscardo

Prayers of People Sarah Chambers

Offering *Panis Angelicus (Bread of Angels)* Franconia Musica

*Doxology UMH #95

**Praise God from Whom all Blessings flow!
 Praise Him all creatures here below!
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts!
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! AMEN**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

New Testament Reading

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

Kathy Henry

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Gospel Reading

John 6:1-14

Allie Adams

Message *Abundance is Communal and Connectional* Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

Invitation to Communion

Sarah Chambers

Prayer of Confession

Generous God,

Your giving knows neither measure nor end.

Yet, even as we gather at Your Table

with our brother and sisters throughout the world,

we confess that we hoard Your gifts

and only grudgingly share our bounty with others.

We too often have kept our hearts, hands and minds firmly closed.

We have focused on our own wants and wishes

to the exclusion of the needs and concerns of others.

Our fear of sharing what we have

has kept us silent to the injustice around us.

Forgive us and help us to transcend self-centeredness, greed, and fear

and to always feel, think and act

as those who know the hope

that is rooted in the generous giving of God;

through Jesus Christ we pray. AMEN.

Assurance and Pardon

Leader: God is forgiving and gracious.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

All: Glory to God. AMEN.

The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller

The Lord 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 to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty and merciful God,
we thank You for Your presence in our midst
as we gather in praise and thanksgiving to You.

(Congregational Response)

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah, hallelujah.

God of all nations, You created every person in Your image
with varied hues of skin, hair, and eyes,
of varied heights and widths,
with differing talents and gifts.

Yet all of us are beautiful in Your sight.

By Your Holy Spirit,

You call us to become one in Christ Jesus,
through baptism and through faith.

We give You thanks for calling us to be Your children.

(Congregational Response)

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah, hallelujah.

You, O God, are indeed above all and through all and in all.
 So, today we join with voices throughout the earth and in heaven, saying:
Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Holy are You, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ.
 Jesus lived among us to show us Your love:
 caring enough to feed hungry persons,
 stopping to touch persons in need of healing,
 reaching out to out to all persons,
 poor and rich,
 children, women and men,
 sick and marginalized.
 He taught us to do the same,
 and showed us how to live in harmony with You and one another.
 We thank You for sending Jesus Christ to live among us.

(Congregational Response)

Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Hallelujah, hallelujah.

On the night in which He gave himself up for us He took bread, gave thanks to You, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, He took the cup, gave thanks to You, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of You; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Savior of the World, Pour out Your Holy Spirit on the table spread this day around this globe, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them to be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

May all who partake, wherever they live, know the reconciling love of Jesus Christ. May Your church go forth from Communion with You to be one in Christ and one in witness to the world. In Your Holy Name we pray. AMEN. Thanks be to God.

(Congregational Response)

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah, hallelujah.

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

But deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom,

and the power and the glory. Forever. AMEN.

Breaking of the Bread

Giving the Bread and Cup

Music During Communion

Halle, Halle, Halle

Amy McCarthy

Abbie Palmer

Prayer Following Communion

Eternal God,

we give You thanks for this holy mystery

in which You have given Yourself to us.

Grant that we may go into the world

in the strength of Your Spirit,

to give ourselves to others

in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

*Song	<i>I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me</i>	See Lyrics
*Benediction		Rev. Melissa Porter-Miller
Postlude	<i>Shalom</i>	Amy McCarthy and Abbie Palmer