

**Sunday Worship - June 4, 2023**



*"I've Been Meaning to Ask..."*  
*Summer Worship Series*

**First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa**

*"Striving to live as Jesus lived –  
confronting injustice with love, compassion, service."*

# Welcome to Worship

*\*Please stand if you are able*

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE HOUR

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The world belongs to the Lord,

**All: the earth and all its people.**

Leader: How good and how lovely it is

**All: to live together in unity.**

Leader: Love and faith come together,

**All: justice and peace join hands.**

Leader: Lord, open our lips

**All: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.**

*~A Wee Worship Book, Fourth Incarnation, WGWG, p. 48*

## \*HYMN #1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

*1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

*2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the  
glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art and evermore shalt be.*

*3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.*

*4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth, and  
sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!*

## \*PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

Leader: In the silence of these moments we pause to confront ourselves  
and name to you the matters that prevent us from fully realizing your grace.

*Time of Silence*

Leader: We name things that prevent us from accepting ourselves, that keep us from accepting one another,  
that block us from reaching out to humankind and to creation.

We abandon ourselves to you in trust; hear us, love us, and forgive us.

**All: Merciful One, hear our prayer. Amen.**

*~Diane Zaerr Brennehan, Words for Worship 2 #51*

## \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: These are the words of Jesus. They are strong and true, so believe them:

“I have come that you may have life in all its fullness.” “Go in peace; your sins are forgiven:

Come, each one, and follow me.”

**All: Now, God, help us to live as a forgiven people-visibly different, gloriously free, for Jesus' sake. Amen.**

*~ A Wee Worship Book, Fourth Incarnation, pp. 44-46*

**\*RESPONSE #435 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

*1 There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.  
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven.  
There is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.*

*2 For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.  
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word,  
And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.*

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

**DISCOVERY TIME**

**SCRIPTURE**

Leader: In the beginning was the Word.

**All: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

Leader: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Luke 10:25-28 (Common English Bible)

A legal expert stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to gain eternal life?"

Jesus replied, "What is written in the Law? How do you interpret it?"

He responded, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus said to him, "You have answered correctly. Do this and you will live."

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**REFLECTION**

Rev. Lori Wunder

**HYMN #727 Will You Let Me Be Your Servant**

*1 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

*2 We are pilgrims on a journey; we're together on the road.  
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.*

*3 I will hold the Christlight for you in the nighttime of your fear.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.*

*4 I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.  
I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.*

*5 When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together of Christ's love and agony.*

*6 Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?  
Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.*

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All: 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.**

## CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Leader: There are many ways to offer ourselves, our resources, our lives to God and the way of God. We do so in response to God's abundant love and provision.

## OFFERTORY

~ Offerings may be placed in the basket located at the back of church or given online at [www.firstpresmv.com](http://www.firstpresmv.com)

## \*DOXOLOGY #607 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore.*

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**All: All that we are and all that we have, are gifts from you, most generous Spirit.  
Unclench our hands from grasping, free our hearts from the need of having,  
and channel our work into sharing your generosity among all your children. Amen.**

~*Words for Worship 2* by Diane Zaerr Brenneman, #144

## \*HYMN #306 Blest Be the Tie That Binds (verses 1-3, repeat verse 1)

*1 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.*

*2 Before our Maker's throne  
we pour our ardent prayers;  
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,  
our comforts and our cares.*

*3 We share our mutual woes,  
our mutual burdens bear,  
and often for each other flows  
the sympathizing tear.*

*4 Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.*

## \*BENEDICTION

## \*POSTLUDE

*All are welcome in the Social Hall (lower level) to enjoy coffee, juice, treats and conversation.*

Thank you to the following people for helping with our service this morning:  
Patricia Hogan, Liturgist  
Scott Larson & Gerald Gerber, AV Crew