

## Sunday Worship - June 28, 2026



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### **The Great Church Chill Out - Week 5 PRAISE for Justice, Righteousness & Shalom**

Psalm 146

**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

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O God, who created the heavens and stretched them out,

**All: we praise you!**

Leader: You made the earth and all that lives here:

**All: we praise you!**

Leader: You give breath to all creatures  
and your Spirit to all people:

**All: we praise and thank you, O God.**

Leader: That the eyes of the blinded be opened,  
the poor hear the good news,  
the captives be brought out of darkness,  
the wealth of the world serve the good of all.

**All: your kingdom come, O God;**

**Your will be done!**

Leader: Then let us sing God a new song

**All: With joy, let us honor our Maker.**

*From the Iona Abbey Worship Book*

## \*HYMN #621 I Will Call upon the Lord

I will call upon the Lord  
who is worthy to be praised.

*I will call upon the Lord  
who is worthy to be praised.*

So shall I be saved from my enemies. *So shall I be saved from my enemies.*

**Unison: I will call upon the Lord.**

Refrain (Unison):

The Lord liveth and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted;  
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

## \*PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

L: Let us pray.

Because God is good, and has intended us to share that goodness, we open ourselves to nothing less than transformation as together we say:

**P: Holy God, have mercy on us.**

L: You are the Word behind all words, the calm at the core of the storm, the energy that sustains creation.

You are present in the pain behind the tears, the laughter in the eyes, the yearning in the heart. All these you share, yet your gift to us is much more.

**P: So open us up, Lord, we whose lives are locked,  
whose thoughts are well rehearsed,  
whose prayer is predictable.**

**Open us up to depths we have not explored,  
truths we have avoided,  
paths we have not followed,  
beauty we have yet to admire.**

**And open us up to Jesus, in whom all things are held together  
for God and for our good. Amen.**

*~ A Wee Worship Book, Fifth Incarnation, p. 27*

*Time of Silence*

## \*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Beloved people of God:

In Christ, we are a new creation.

Believe this good news and place your trust in God alone.

**ALL: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

## \*RESPONSE #48 Rain Down

Rain down, rain down; rain down your love on your people.

Rain down, rain down; rain down your love, God of life.

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of Christ be with you!

**P: And also with you.**

## DISCOVERY TIME

### SCRIPTURE

Leader: In the beginning was the Word.

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

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

**Psalm 146** (Common English Bible)

Leader: Let my whole being praise the LORD!

<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

**ALL: <sup>3</sup>Don't trust leaders;  
don't trust any human beings—  
there's no saving help with them!**

Leader: <sup>4</sup>Their breath leaves them,  
then they go back to the ground.

On that very same day, their plans die too.

**ALL: <sup>5</sup>The person whose help is the God of Jacob—  
the person whose hope rests on the LORD their God—  
is truly happy!**

Leader: <sup>6</sup>God: the maker of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them,

God: who is faithful forever,

<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to people who are oppressed,  
who gives bread to people who are starving!

**ALL: The LORD: who frees prisoners.**

**<sup>8</sup>The LORD: who makes the blind see.**

**The LORD: who straightens up those who are bent low.**

**The LORD: who loves the righteous.**

**<sup>9</sup>The LORD: who protects immigrants,  
who helps orphans and widows,  
but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!**

Leader: <sup>10</sup>The LORD will rule forever!

Zion, your God will rule from one generation to the next!

**ALL: Praise the LORD!**

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 #79 Light Dawns on a Weary World

1: Light dawns on a weary world when eyes begin to see all people's dignity.  
Light dawns on a weary world: the promised day of justice comes.

### REFRAIN

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands gush with springs;  
The hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!  
We shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in wonder echoes shalom.

2: Love grows in a weary world when hungry hearts find bread  
and children's dreams are fed.  
Love grows in a weary world: the promised feast of plenty comes.

### REFRAIN

3: Hope blooms in a weary world when creatures, once forlorn,  
find wilderness reborn.  
Hope blooms in a weary world: the promised green of Eden comes.

### REFRAIN

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS AND 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 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 & PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Everything we have is a gift from God,  
and our offerings are a way of acknowledging God as the giver.  
Whatever and whenever we give is a vital part of our response to God  
and helps us connect our love for God with our life of discipleship.

Let us pray together:

**ALL: May we commit ourselves, Lord God, once again looking ahead to this week:  
to find ways to serve,  
to find ways to give,  
to find ways to use our abilities in bringing about change for justice and peace,  
to find ways to use our whole selves in bringing about your Kingdom.**

**Amen**

## \*HYMN #747 The Lord Now Sends Us Forth

The Lord now sends us forth  
with hands to serve and give,  
to make of all the earth  
a better place to live. Repeat

The angels are not sent  
into our world of pain  
to do what we were meant  
to do in Jesus' name;  
that falls to you and me  
and all who are made free.  
Help us, O Lord, we pray,  
to do your will today. Repeat

## \*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:

Sue Deibner, Liturgist  
Scott Larson and Gerald Gerber, AV Crew  
Linda Nost, Coffee Hour

First Pres Mount Vernon Staff:

Lori Wunder, Pastor  
Cristina Galán, Office Manager  
Rebecca Nickles, Music Director  
Nona Hutchinson, Treasurer  
María Seda, Nursery  
Maryjayne Gerber, Custodian