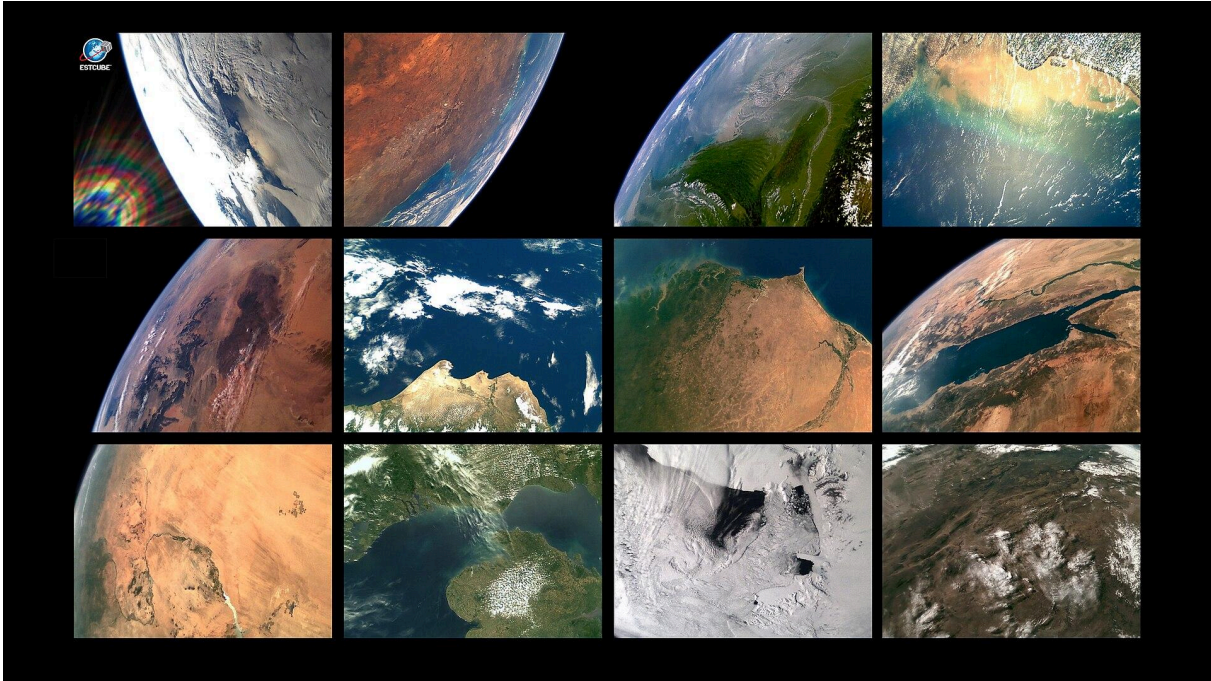


# Sunday Worship - July 5, 2026

## Sacrament of the Lord's Supper



Compilation of photos taken by Estonian satellite, 2013-2015. Showing the various colours of Earth. Starting from top left and in chronological order: Arctic; Australia; Brazil; Myanmar and Bangladesh; Algeria; Peru; Mauritania and Senegal; Red Sea; Sudan; English Channel; Antarctica; Mongolia and China.

*The Earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,  
the world, and those who live in it;  
for he has founded it on the seas,  
and established it on the rivers.*

*Psalm 24:1-2*

**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: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**All: maker of heaven and earth.**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

sing the glory of God's name; give to the Lord glorious praise.

**All: All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.**

Leader: Let us worship God together!

## \*HYMN #336 We Gather Together

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
He chastens and hastens His will to make known;  
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.  
Sing praises to His name, He forgets not His own.
2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining His kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning:  
the Lord was at our side- the glory be Thine!
3. We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,  
and pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.  
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;  
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

**ALL: Almighty God, ruler of all the peoples of the earth,**

**forgive, we pray, our shortcomings as a nation;**

**purify our hearts to see and love truth;**

**give wisdom to our counselors and steadfastness to our people;**

**and bring us at last to the fair city of peace,**

**whose foundations are mercy, justice, and goodwill,**

and whose builder and maker you are;  
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

~ Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924)

## 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 33:1, 4-22 (NRSVUE) - The Greatness and Goodness of God**

Leader: Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous.

Praise befits the upright.

**All: <sup>4</sup>For the word of the LORD is upright,  
and all his work is done in faithfulness.**

Leader: <sup>5</sup>He loves righteousness and justice;  
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

**All: <sup>6</sup>By the word of the LORD the heavens were made  
and all their host by the breath of his mouth.**

Leader: <sup>7</sup>He gathered the waters of the sea as in a bottle;  
he put the deeps in storehouses.

**All: <sup>8</sup>Let all the earth fear the LORD;  
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him,**

Leader: <sup>9</sup>for he spoke, and it came to be;  
he commanded, and it stood firm.

**All: <sup>10</sup>The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;  
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.**

Leader: <sup>11</sup>The counsel of the LORD stands forever,  
the thoughts of his heart to all generations.

**All: <sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD,  
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage.**

Leader: <sup>13</sup>The LORD looks down from heaven; he sees all humankind.

**All: <sup>14</sup>From where he sits enthroned he watches  
all the inhabitants of the earth—**

Leader: <sup>15</sup>he who fashions the hearts of them all  
and observes all their deeds.

**All: <sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by his great army;  
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.**

Leader: <sup>17</sup>The war horse is a vain hope for victory,  
and by its great might it cannot save.

**All: <sup>18</sup> Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,  
on those who hope in his steadfast love,**

**Leader: <sup>19</sup> to deliver their soul from death  
and to keep them alive in famine.**

**All: <sup>20</sup> Our soul waits for the LORD;  
he is our help and shield.**

**Leader: <sup>21</sup> Our heart is glad in him  
because we trust in his holy name.**

**All: <sup>22</sup> Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,  
even as we hope in you.**

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.**

## TIME OF SONG & REFLECTION

Rev. Lori Wunder

### #340 This Is My Song

1: This is my Song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.  
This is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true as mine.

2: My country's skies are bluer than the oceans,  
and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine.  
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.  
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.

3: This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms;  
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.  
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,  
and hearts united learn to live as one.  
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations:  
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

## #338 O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

1: O beautiful for spacious skies,  
for amber waves of grain,  
for purple mountain majesties  
above the fruited plain!  
America! America!  
God shed his grace on thee,  
and crown thy good with  
servanthood  
from sea to shining sea!

2: O beautiful for heroes proved  
in liberating strife,  
who more than self their country  
loved,  
and mercy more than life!  
America! America!  
God mend thine every flaw;  
confirm thy soul in self-control,  
thy liberty in law!

3: O beautiful for patriot dream  
that sees beyond the years  
thine alabaster cities gleam,  
undimmed by human tears!  
America! America!  
May God thy gold refine  
till all success be nobleness  
and every gain divine!

## #339 Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift ev'ry voice and sing  
till earth and heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty.  
Let our rejoicing rise  
high as the list'ning skies;  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun  
of our new day begun,  
Let us march on till victory is won.

2. Stony the road we trod,  
bitter the chast'ning rod,  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died.  
Yet with a steady beat,  
have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?  
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered.  
We have come, treading our path thru' the blood of the slaughtered,  
Out from the gloomy past,  
till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. God of our weary years,  
God of our silent tears,  
Thou who hast brought us thus far on the way,  
Thou who hast by thy might  
led us into the light,  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.  
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met thee,  
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget thee.  
Shadowed beneath thy hand,  
may we forever stand,  
True to our God, true to our native land.

## PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING & LAMENT FOR OUR NATION

*Lavender and cream colored papers are provided for all  
who wish to write their own prayers of thanksgiving and/or lament for our nation*

## 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**

## SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

### THE STORY

L: Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread, and, having blessed it, he broke bread and gave it to his disciples, saying,  
"This is my body which is given for you."

In the same way he took wine, and, having given thanks for it, he poured it out and gave the cup to his disciples, saying, "This cup is the new relationship with God, made possible because of my death. Take this and share it.

I shall drink wine with you next in the coming kingdom of God."

So now, following Jesus' example, we take this bread and this cup;  
the ordinary things of the world through which God will bless us.

And, as Jesus offered thanks for the gifts of the earth,  
let us also celebrate God's goodness.

#### THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: Blessed are you, O God, for you have brought forth bread from the earth.

**P: Blessed are you, O God, for you have created the fruit of the vine.**

L: In the beginning you watered the earth so that human beings might have food and drink.

**P: You gave to your servant Sarah bread to strengthen her family on their journey, and wine to make them glad.**

L: You called Moses and his people out of bondage and refreshed them with food in the wilderness.

**P: You gave Mary and Jesus their daily bread to share.**

L: And here at your table you offer us bread and wine for the journey, to nourish us as your children.

**All: And so with all our relations, before us and beside us, we praise you from our hearts for your unending greatness.**

L: Lord Jesus Christ, present with us now,  
as we do in this place what you did in an upstairs room,  
breathe your Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this cup,  
that they may be heaven's food and drink for us,  
renewing, sustaining and making us whole,  
and that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring in the world.

#### THE BREAKING AND SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Jesus said: I am the bread of life.

Jesus said: I am the vine, you are the branches.

Come to me and never be hungry; believe in me and never thirst.

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

*Gluten, allergen free cracker and individual cups of juice are available*

#507 Come to the Table of Grace (verses 1-5, repeated as needed)

1. Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.  
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.
2. Come to the table of **peace**...
3. Come to the table of **love**...
4. Come to the table of **hope**...
5. Come to the table of **joy**...

## CONCLUDING PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray together:

**ALL: Lord, Jesus Christ, you have put your life into our hands;  
now we put our lives into yours.**

**Take us, renew and remake us.**

**What we have been is past; what we shall be, through you, still awaits us. Lead us  
on. Take us with you. Amen.**

## \*HYMN #379 We Shall Overcome

### VERSE

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,  
We shall overcome someday.

### CHORUS

O deep in my heart, I do believe  
We shall overcome someday.

Additional verses (followed by CHORUS)

We'll walk hand in hand...

We shall all be free...

We are not afraid...

We are not alone...

## \*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:

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