

Strawbridge UMC

World Communion Sunday – October 2, 2022 (8:30am)

Centering Words – (*Psalm 137, **Romans 13:11-14** and Luke 17:5-6*)

As Christians around the world gather this day to share Holy Communion as ONE body – a body united in the love and mercy of Jesus Christ, let all of us together “put on Christ” by simply revealing and letting shine the Imago Dei already in us. Let the glory of the Lord be seen and manifest in Kingdom people everywhere to the glory of God!

Call to Worship:

In this hour of crisis, God commands we wake from sleep because our full deliverance is nearer now than when we first believed.

Let us live balanced lives in God’s living word.

We are far along in the night, but day is near. Therefore, let us throw off the deeds of darkness and “put on” or expose the armour of Light.

Let us live balanced lives in God’s unfailing love.

Let us behave with decency that befits believers. Let Jesus Christ, Himself be the armour that we wear daily.

Let us live balanced lives with all God’s people, guided and led by the Holy Spirit.

Morning Prayer—

Voices of Inspiration ~

- *Let the Words of My Mouth/Lord’s Prayer (T.P. #649)*
- *Oh, the Blood of Jesus (T.P. #256)*

Notices and Announcements – Rose Allen

Sermonic Selection – *Jesus Christ is the Way*

Scripture: Romans 13:11-14 and Luke 17:5-6

Message: “*Put On Christ!*”

Communion Litany:

- *With Christians around the world, come to the festival of love.*
- ***We come with thanksgiving and praise.***
- *With believers from every continent on earth, come to the festival of grace.*
- ***We come with thanksgiving and praise.***
- *With the whole body of Christ, come to the festival of life.*
- ***We come with thanksgiving and praise.***

Hymn of Preparation – *Risen Lord, We Gather Round You (T.P. #665)*

~ The Great Thanksgiving – World Communion ~

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere,
to give thanks to You, Almighty God, creator of all things in
heaven and on earth.

In the beginning, You brought forth life, that every living thing might
live in harmony in the great circle of life.

After fashioning our frame from the dust and bones of the earth, You
placed Your image (*the imago Dei*) in us, and declared that it was
not good for us to be alone.

Created to be in unity and harmony with creation and with one another,
You sent prophets and teachers when we broke fellowship with one
another and when our pride sought out differences among us.

In the fullness of time, You sent Your Son, Jesus Christ, to fashion us into
a Holy community that would be His body here on earth with Your
restored image (*imago Dei*).

Even when dissent and division threatened to pull His followers apart,
Jesus prayed that we might all be ONE in His Name, and shared with
us the bread of heaven and the cup of salvation in His Name.

And so, with all Your people on earth, and all the company of heaven, we
praise Your Name and join their unending hymn, 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 Bread of heaven, Christ Jesus. When You
sent Christ to be with us, He offered His very self, that we might have
the strength to stand when all hope seems lost.

Through the holy mystery of this table, You invite us into Your presence,
tend us in our weakness, and strengthen us through this bread and cup.

With joy and gratitude, we now remember that night when Jesus took
bread, broke it, and gave it to His disciples saying, “Take, eat, this is the
bread of life, given for you. Do this in remembrance of Me.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to His disciples,
saying, “Drink from this, all of you. This is My life 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 of love and grace, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving. As Your covenant people and as reflections of Your glory (imago Dei), in union with Christ’s love for us, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Breaking of Bread...

Raising of Cup...

Commune in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit

Closing Selection ~ *Till We Meet Again* (T.P. #629)

Offertory Prayer and Benediction:

- With Christians around the world, go forth to bear witness in a divided and broken world.
- **Knit together in Christian love, we depart to share living bread with a world starving for spiritual food.**
- With Christians around the world, go forth blessed through fellowship with Christ to be in union with God and the Holy Spirit, bearing God’s image.
- **Woven together in Christian hope, we depart to share the cup of salvation with a world dying of thirst. Amen.**