

Sunday, October 17th

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements



*Call to Worship

Leader: We gather to worship God,

**People: who stretched the heavens like a tent and set the earth
on its foundations.**

Leader: We gather to worship God,

People: who rides the winds like a chariot and wears light as a garment.

Leader: We gather to worship God,

People: who suffered for the sake of our lives and offers us life abundant.

*Hymn # 23 – God, You Spin the Whirling Planets

*God, you spin the whirling planets, fill the seas and spread the plain, mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
call forth sunshine, wind, and rain. We, created in your image, would a true reflection be of your justice, grace,
and mercy and the truth that makes us free.*

*You have called us to be faithful in our life and ministry. We respond in grateful worship joined in one
community. When we blur your gracious image, focus us and make us whole. Healed and strengthened as your
people, we move onward toward your goal.*

*God, your word is still creating, calling us to life made new. Now reveal to us fresh vistas where there's work to
dare and do. Keep us clear of all distortion. Polish us with loving care. Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, through Jesus, you taught us that the last shall be first and the first shall be last, but we
often struggle with creating space so that others might thrive. We are haphazard with your creation,
choosing convenience over conservation, and recklessly assume there will always be enough to go around.
We idealize the poor as “happy with their small portion” and put off acts of justice that restore
opportunities for the vulnerable. We are often content for those on the margins to be “first” in the
afterlife but not in this life. And sometimes we fall prey to the world’s priorities, which whisper that we
must come in first and have the most and that we are always in jeopardy of not being enough. Help us, O
God, to lean into the example of our servant savior, who models power in vulnerability and invites us to
serve one another. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of Illumination

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Scripture: Mark 10:35-45

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon: Competitive Discipleship

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin
Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third
day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the
Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Special Music

Prayers of the People

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.**

***Hymn # 727 – Will You Let Me Be Your Servant (The Servant Song)**

*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.*

*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.*

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

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*

***Charge and Benediction**

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***Congregational Response: Hymn # 606 – Doxology**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Postlude

God, You Spin the Whirling Planets 23

Capo 1: (D) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D) (G)
 E^b A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b A^b



1 God, you spin the whirl-ing plan - ets, fill the seas and
 2 You have called us to be faith - ful in our life and
 3 God, your word is still cre - at - ing, call - ing us to

(D) (A) (D) (Bm) (G) (D) (G) (A) (D)
 E^b B^b E^b Cm A^b E^b A^b B^b E^b



spread the plain, mold the moun - tains, fash - ion blos - soms, call forth
 min - is - try. We re - spond in grate - ful wor - ship joined in
 life made new. Now re - veal to us fresh vis - tas where there's

(G) (D) (A) (D) (G) (D) (A)
 A^b E^b B^b E^b A^b E^b B^b



sun - shine, wind, and rain. We, cre - at - ed in your im - age,
 one com - mu - ni - ty. When we blur your gra - cious im - age,
 work to dare and do. Keep us clear of all dis - tor - tion.

(D) (Bm)(F#m) (G)(A) (D) (G)
 E^b Cm Gm A^b B^b E^b A^b



would a true re - flec - tion be of your jus - tice,
 fo - cus us and make us whole. Healed and strength - ened
 Pol - ish us with lov - ing care. Thus, new crea - tures

(D) (G) (A) (D) (G) (Em) (D) (A) (D)
 E^b A^b B^b E^b A^b Fm E^b B^b E^b



grace, and mer - cy and the truth that makes us free.
 as your peo - ple, we move on - ward toward your goal.
 in your im - age, we'll pro - claim Christ ev - ery - where.

This text was written for the 1979 National Meeting of United Presbyterian Women, whose theme, "In the Image of God," is variously considered here as reflection, focus, distortion, and polishing for clarity. The words are well set to an anonymous 19th-century American tune.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant 727

The Servant Song

1, 6 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney; we're to -
3 I will hold the Christ - light for you in the
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you
5 When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall

be as Christ to you? Pray that I may have the
geth - er on the road. We are here to help each
night - time of your fear. I will hold my hand out
laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and
find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've known to -

grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
to you, speak the peace you long to hear.
sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney through.
geth - er of Christ's love and ag - o - ny.
(repeat stanza 1)

The opening and closing stanza expresses the essence of this folk-style song about the mutuality of servant ministry: those who serve must also be willing to be served. This is what Christ intended when he commanded the disciples to "wash one another's feet" (John 13:14).