

John Knox Presbyterian Church
October 4, 2026
World Communion Sunday



GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

"Fantasiosa"

Mario Ruiz Armengól

Words of Welcome

*The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.***

*** Call to Worship**

Creator God, Mother and Father of us all, your children worship you.

People of every tribe, nation, language and culture praise you!

Risen Christ, your sisters and brothers around the world give thanks to you.

People of every kind and status, in every hut and cathedral sing to you!

Holy Spirit, you make us one, the Body of Christ, throughout the World.

Loving Christ, we come to your table to be together with our siblings.

May there be unity among us.

May we be one in the love and faith of Christ, one in the Spirit, and one in ministry to all the world, to the glory of God. Alleluia!

*** Hymn**

"This is My Song"

#340

Sing verses 1 and 2 from the hymnal, and verse 3 as below and on the projection:

*May truth and freedom come to every nation;
May peace abound where strife has raged so long;
That each may seek to love and build together,
A world united, righting every wrong;
A world united in its love for freedom,
Proclaiming peace together in one song.*

Lloyd Stone wrote the first two stanzas of this hymn between the 20th century's two world wars with focus on the theme of international peace. The third stanza, by Georgia Harkness, reflects her belief in ecumenism and pacifism. She was the first woman to become a full professor at an American seminary.

*** Call to Confession**

*** Unison Prayer of Confession**

If we were to name all the gods we have before you, Rock of Redemption, we would be here a very long time. We elevate politicians into saviors, though they are as broken as we are. We misuse your name so much during the day, we have trouble speaking to you in

prayer at night. We are so busy, we do not notice how creation witnesses to your goodness and grace.

Forgive us, God our Hope. Help us to let go of what we value most, so we may open our emptiness, our hearts, our lives to the healing and loving presence of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

*** Assurance of Grace**

Persistently, patiently, lovingly, God pours out grace and joy into our lives, healing our brokenness, forgiving our sin.

Loved, we are sent to love;

forgiven, we are freed to forgive;

graced, we can offer our gifts to everyone we meet.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*** Sung Response**

“Holy, Most Holy Lord”

#597

Sanna, sannanina - Swahili text and trad. South African music

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

John 17: 20-26

Inclusive Translation

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Time with Our Young and Growing Ones

Second Reading

Ephesians 2: 11-22

Inclusive Translation

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rev. Maggie Lewis

*** Affirmation of Faith**

Excerpt and Adaptation from The Belhar Confession

We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another.

We believe that the unity of the people of God must be visible and active in the world, so that the church may be a sign of the reconciliation that God intends for all creation.

We believe that this unity is both a gift and an obligation: that we must seek it, pursue it, and embody it in our life together.

We believe that the church must therefore stand where God stands—against injustice and with those who suffer—and that the church must proclaim and live the reconciliation that Christ has accomplished. Thanks be to God.

GATHERING AT CHRIST’S TABLE

All are Welcome

*** Communion Hymn**

“For Everyone Born”

#769

Sing first verse with refrain, then please be seated.

This hymn from a noted New Zealand hymnwriter affirms that God’s hospitality transcends the barriers erected by human society and we who have been created in God’s image are called to live in ways that reflect our Creator’s values: justice and joy, compassion and peace.

Invitation to the Table

Friends, this is the table of Jesus Christ...

... Christ has prepared a place for you

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving, Words of Institution

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Holy One, our God.

It is good and beautiful to give God our praise.

God of love, in the beginning

you created us in your image.

Male and female, differently abled, gay,
straight and queer, trans and non-binary,

you created us in your image.

Black and pink, brown and yellow,

you created us in your image.

You made covenant to be our God... .. sing your praise.

Hymn "For Everyone Born" #769
Sing verse 2, no refrain, and verse 3 with refrain.

Blessed are all who come in your name... .. the mystery of our faith:

Hymn "For Everyone Born" #769
Sing verse 4 with refrain

The Communion of the People

You will be served the bread and cup in your pew.
When you are served, please hold the elements
until you are invited to partake in community.
Empty cups may be left in the pews,
placed in the basket on the narthex table,
or returned to the social hall.

Special Music "You Are My All in All" Dennis Jernigan

Hymn/Prayer after Communion "For Everyone Born" #769
Sing verse 5 with refrain

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Minute for Mission



WORLD COMMUNION OFFERING

*Supporting racial justice, gender justice, global witness,
and ecumenical and interfaith engagement*

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory "Al Shlosa D'Varim" Anna & Micah Robinson
A lyrical setting of an essential maxim from Jewish morality laws, translated to mean:
"The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace."

*** Sung Response** "Praise to God the Father" #605
Ghanian melody

* Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Please remember to use first names only to protect the privacy of those for whom we offer prayers.

Response for congregational prayer:

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

* Sending Song "Let There Be Peace on Earth" projection

The songwriter and her husband-composer wrote this musical prayer in 1995 for a group of young people in California who were from a wide variety of religious, ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds. The young people had come together for a weeklong experience devoted to developing friendship and understanding through education, discussion and working together. The song's focus on peace and God made it easy to cross many boundaries. Its message of unity and simple, singable melody quickly resonated globally.

* Responsive Charge

You are a blessed people.

We will go to be a blessing in the world.

You are the face of Jesus.

We will go to be love and compassion to all.

You are the family of God.

**We will go to serve our sisters and brothers
wherever we may find them.**

* Benediction

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude

Postlude

"La Manana Gloriosa"

Attrib. Robert Carlton Savage

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Pianist: Melissa Terrall

Liturgist: Eileen Sheelar

Music Director: Anna Robinson

Church and Community Life

JESUS SAYS "In my Father's house are many rooms."

We live in a world of many peoples, cultures, languages, nations, and faiths. Christians confess Jesus Christ as Lord, and yet we also confess that the earth belongs to God and that no nation, culture, or religious community can claim ownership of God.

This is World Communion Sunday. We will celebrate a global, connected Church, including participating in the PC(USA) World Communion Special Offering. Racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement are the important causes supported by this offering.

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called by session for Sunday, October 11 after worship for the purpose of electing officers, voting on proposed revisions to bylaws, and any other business. A few paper copies of the proposed revisions are available on the table in the narthex; an email was sent on Sept. 26 with a copy of the revisions to those who receive email. If you want more information about these bylaws changes, please contact Eileen.

NATIONAL FAITH & BLUE WEEKEND is October 9-11 in Keizer, coordinated by Crossroads Fellowship. Friday, Oct. 9, there is *Coffee with a Cop* 9-10 am at Keizer Grange. Saturday, there is a prayer walk for first responders beginning at 9 am at Keizer Police Station, followed by Community Day at Crossroads from 11 am – 2 pm. There will be police cars, fire trucks, and motorcycles, a free BBQ (11 am – 1 pm), bounce houses and outdoor games, family activities, bike safety/helmet fitting (11-12), a doughnut-eating contest (1:00), and a Police K-9 demonstration (1:30). Sunday, their services will honor and pray for first responders.

WILLAMETTE VALLEY PIES UPDATE

A check for \$1,000 was delivered to Congregations Helping People from purchases of Willamette Valley Pies. These pies are still available for sale:

For \$10 each, 8 or 9" pies:	For \$7 each, 5" pies:
4 peach marionberry	2 marionberry pies
1 peach	17 apple crumble
3 cherry	
3 caramel apple crumble	
7 pumpkin	

Contact Sheila with your order. You can give the money to Bronwyn or the counters.

Looking Ahead

Oct. 9-11 Faith & Blue Weekend at Crossroads Fellowship (see information in bulletin)

Oct. 11 **10:30** Worship
After worship: Congregational meeting to elect officers and vote on revised bylaws

Oct. 12 **7:00 pm** Administration Committee-Zoom

Oct. 15 **7:00 pm** Session meeting - Zoom

Oct. 18 **10:30** Worship
After worship: Autumn fellowship meal, with to-be-announced entertainment 🎵

Oct. 23-24 Cascades Presbytery meeting-North Bend, OR

Oct. 25 **10:30** Worship – Reformation Sunday

JKPC October Birthdays

Oct. 1 **Cariana H.**

Oct. 14 **Rosemary W**

Oct. 24 **Shirley B. (103!)**

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Pastor's phone: 510-435-7836

This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people. We offer our gratitude to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.

We are recording this service and it will be available on our website for two weeks.