



## Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

June 13, 2021, 11am

**Park Hill Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)**

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Visit our website at [parkhillpres.org](http://parkhillpres.org)

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Town Hall today
2. Lunch help needed for Ozark Mission Project June 21-24

### CALL TO WORSHIP

The Risen Christ has made us his Body,  
**to love, serve, and care for each other.**

The Risen Christ has made us his Body,  
**calling us in every language and from every background.**

The Risen Christ has made us his Body,  
**giving us grace to live his way.**

We join with God's people in every time and place to seek the Spirit's purpose. Come, let us worship.

\*HYMN OF PRAISE "Holy, Holy, Holy," vs. 1-4 (ASL) #1  
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee. Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!  
Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.  
Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee, though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see, Only thou art holy; there is none beside thee, perfect in power, in love and purity.  
Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea. Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

### CALL TO CONFESSION and CONFESSION

The God who is Three yet One calls us into community to live out God's vision together. Let us focus our hearts now, that we may be faithful in a world that offers other ways that do not lead to life. Lord, help us to confess together the ways that lead to death, saying, forgive us Lord, **Cleanse and free us.**

Holy God, you call us into the story you are still telling in creation and through your people. We confess that we are prone to resisting your continued creating, treating change as an enemy. Forgive us Lord, **Cleanse and free us.**

When our actions do not match the truth of your gospel, when we are selfish, when our minds are full of condemnation for others, and lacking in forgiveness; forgive us Lord, **Cleanse and free us.**

When our minds are full of judgement and self-hatred, when we disparage our gifts or tell lies about the gifts and intentions of other, Forgive us Lord, **Cleanse and free us.**

Return our attention to your truth, that we may follow your way and find ourselves in your abundant life. Hear our private confessions of need.

HYMN OF FORGIVENESS "Yet Not I but Through Christ In Me," vs. 4 Annabel  
With every breath I long to follow Jesus. For he has said that he will bring me home.  
And day by day I know he will renew me . Until I stand with joy before the throne.  
To this I hold my hope is only Jesus. All the glory evermore to him.  
When the race is complete still my lips shall repeat.  
Yet not I but through Christ in me.

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

Friends, believe this: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

## TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

Pastor Marie Mainard O'Connell

## READING

Acts 6:1-7a, 44-60

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. <sup>2</sup>And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. <sup>3</sup>Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, <sup>4</sup>while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." <sup>5</sup>What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. <sup>6</sup>They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. <sup>7</sup>The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

<sup>8</sup>Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. <sup>9</sup>Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. <sup>10</sup>But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke.

<sup>11</sup>Then they secretly instigated some men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." <sup>12</sup>They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. <sup>13</sup>They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; <sup>14</sup>for we have heard him say that this holy place and the law; <sup>14</sup>for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." <sup>15</sup>And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

<sup>7</sup>Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?" <sup>2</sup>And Stephen replied: "*Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran, <sup>44</sup>“Our ancestors had the tent of testimony in the wilderness, as God directed when he spoke to Moses, ordering him to make it according to the pattern he had seen. <sup>45</sup>Our ancestors in turn brought it in with Joshua when they dispossessed the nations that God drove out before our ancestors. And it was there until the time of David, <sup>46</sup>who found favor with God and asked that he might find a dwelling place for the house of Jacob. <sup>47</sup>But it was Solomon who built a house for him. <sup>48</sup>Yet the Most High does not dwell in houses made with human hands; as the prophet says, <sup>49</sup>‘Heaven is my throne, and the earth is my footstool. What kind of house will you build for me, says the Lord, or what is the place of my rest? <sup>50</sup>Did not my hand make all these things?’*"

<sup>51</sup>"*You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you are forever opposing the Holy Spirit, just as your ancestors used to do. <sup>52</sup>Which of the prophets did your ancestors not persecute? They killed those who foretold the coming of the Righteous One, and now you have become his betrayers and murderers. <sup>53</sup>You are the ones that received the law as ordained by angels, and yet you have not kept it."*

<sup>54</sup>When they heard these things, they became enraged and ground their teeth at Stephen.

<sup>55</sup>But filled with the Holy Spirit, he gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. <sup>56</sup>"*Look,*" he said, "*I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!*" <sup>57</sup>But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. <sup>58</sup>Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. <sup>59</sup>While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "*Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.*" <sup>60</sup>Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "*Lord, do not hold this sin against them.*" When he had said this, he died.

## SERMON

Rev. Marie Mainard O'Connell

COMMENTARY by Margaret Aymer for [workingpreacher.org](http://workingpreacher.org)

## CREED

"Nicene Creed"

Virtual Congregation

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son, is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in the holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gracious God, you have been with us in every time and place. From age to age you travel beside us, and we are grateful for your presence and providing. We come before you with thanks, with hope and concern for your world. Hear us as we pray, saying Gracious God, **Hear our prayer.**

We lift up those who have slipped through the cracks, overlooked. For all who struggle but don't "qualify" for help, and those who are too proud to ask, and those who feel helpless in the face of a system they can't navigate we pray for your help in opening doors and smoothing paths. Gracious God, **Hear our prayer.**

We pray, too, that you would make us advocates for those in need. Show us how our skills and gifts can serve others whom we might not even see. Bring their plight to our attention and help us recognize our power to help. Gracious God, **Hear our prayer.**

We lift up those who are called to leadership, in church, community, and nation. Give them wisdom, compassion, flexibility, and an extra measure of your Spirit, to guide us in your kingdom ways rather than simply the way things are. Gracious God, **Hear our prayer.**

We lift up those who face violence of any kind, from within and without. Especially we pray for those caught in an unjust system of state violence, facing execution, imprisonment, war or persecution. Gracious God, **Hear our prayer.**

May your peace fall like rain on the earth and grow from every place, that in our homes and hearts, our policies and practices, we might become people of peace. Gracious God, **Hear our prayer.**

We ask these and all things in the name of the One who heals all division, re-members us into his Body, and renews all life: and we pray as he taught us, saying

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, they 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**

**but deliver us from evil, for thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR MISSION OMP service project - lunch

#### GIVING OF OUR OFFERINGS AND TITHES

In freedom and joy, let us present the offerings of our lives to the Lord. You may choose to give by dropping off your offering in the plate as you exit worship in the sanctuary, or by mailing your offerings to the church, or giving online. Your gifts maintain our ministries, and make it possible to help others in need.

If you know of someone in need—physical, financial, emotional or spiritual... especially if it is yourself, please speak with our pastor or the elder for Congregational Care, Mary Henry.

Doxology "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" Video  
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creations high and low.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Praise God, in Jesus fully known: Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

#### PRAYER

\*HYMN OF SENDING "Take My Life," vs. 1, 2, 4, 6 #697  
**Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee; take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise; let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

**Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love; take my feet and let them  
be swift and beautiful for thee, swift and beautiful for thee.**

**Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold; take my intellect and use  
every power as thou shalt choose, every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store; take myself and I will be  
ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.**

#### PASSING THE PEACE, CHARGE AND BLESSING

"The LORD bless you and keep you; The LORD's face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; The LORD lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace."

#### POSTLUDE

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