



United Presbyterian Church
1701 E. Second Street
Bloomington, IN 47401

World Communion Sunday
October 1, 2023

The Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

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United Presbyterian Church
 October 1, 2023 World Communion Sunday ❖ Deacons Sunday



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS **Reverend Cheryl Montgomery**

PRELUDE *In Christ There Is No East or West* Benjamin Watkins, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Luke 13:29) Deacon Patrick Nyarko, liturgist

Liturgist: People will come from east and west, from north and south, and will eat in the kingdom of God.

People: **Thanks be to God for welcoming us to the table.**

***Opening Hymn** *Lord, to You My Soul Is Lifted* #178



PASSING OF THE PEACE (liturgist & congregation)

Liturgist: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Liturgist: Let us share the peace with one another.

MUSIC for MEDITATION *We Shall Overcome*
 Members of the UPC Quartet

Call to Confession

Sin is our stumbling block. Repentance clears the way to hear and receive God's truth. Let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER of CONFESSION (IN UNISON WITH Liturgist)

Gracious God, we are indebted to you and your generosity. But we fail to live as good stewards of all you have given us. We confiscate and consume far more than our fair share. We neglect the poor and trap people in poverty, claiming that debt forgiveness is unfair. God, liberate us from our spiritual and moral bondage. Free our world for jubilee. Reorder our priorities so all your nations and peoples may thrive. Amen.

ASSURANCE of PARDON (from 2 Corinthians 5:17)

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

First Reading *Exodus 17: 1 - 7* (Pew Bible p. 55; large print p. 110) – Liturgist
 Second Reading *Philippians 2: 1 - 13* (Pew Bible p. 894; large print p. 1807) – Pastor
 The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

SERMON

Is God with Us or Not?

Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH— The Apostle's Creed (traditional) led by Rev. Montgomery
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.

**Gloria Patri.*

#579

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Reverend Cheryl Montgomery

HYMN of PREPARATION

Let Us Break Bread Together

#513

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Holy, holy, holy Lord — we praise you for your love: bringing order out of chaos, breathing life into dust, leading captives into freedom, calling wandering children home, giving bread to the hungry, giving drink to the thirsty, raising the dead to life.

Thank you, Lord — we thank you for Jesus: Word made flesh, light of the world, living water, shepherd and gate, way and truth, bread of heaven, cup of salvation, resurrection and life.

Take this bread and cup, O God — a feast of grace; take our hearts and lives — an offering of praise.

Spirit, come — come and live in us: in this bread, in this cup, in your people, one in the body, one in the blood; one with Christ, one in ministry, in this place, in every place; in this world, in the world to come.

Blessing and glory, wisdom and thanksgiving, honor and power, forever and ever!

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Holy God, we thank you for this feast of grace and life. As we have been served, help us to serve our neighbors. As we have been fed, help us to feed all who are hungry. As we have been loved, help us to love the world — because in Christ Jesus you have loved us. Amen.

