



October 4, 2020

# ***Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost***

*Viroqua UMC Worship Service—Sunday, 10:30 A.M.*

*Please turn off all cell phones and electronics*

*\*\*Please stand if you are able*

## PREPARING OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

**PRELUDE** "POEME" *by Lani Smith*

**\*\*RINGING OF THE BELL**

**\*\*GREETING**

Friends, this is the joyful feast of unity. Christ has gathered his people around the earth to commune at this table. Come. Come with your doubts, come with your hopes, come with your inadequacies and with your strengths. Come, for this is a table where all are invited and all are welcome.

**WELCOMING WORDS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## CALLED TO WORSHIP

**\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

L. Around the world people gather to break bread and pour wine.

**P. We gather with them in heart and mind.**

L. Around the world the broken body is made whole.

**P. As part of that body we join in its unity.**

L. Around the world the Banquet of God is prepared for the table.

**P. We, who share in the banquet, come eagerly to be fed.**

P. Let us worship together, let us share God's bounty.

**\*\*HYMN** "COME WE THAT LOVE THE LORD" **UMH NO. 732**

**\*\*OPENING PRAYER** *(in unison)*

Wondrous God of infinite love and boundless compassion, mark our hearts with the seal of your handiwork. Create within us the joy of being in your presence and the capacity to love deeply and genuinely. May this time when we partake of the body and blood of Jesus unite us in the community of saints who know your love and proclaim your Son with fervor and grace to a broken and hurting world.

Amen.

## CALLED TO REFLECTION

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** **PSALM 19** **PEW BIBLE NO. 659**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING** **PHILIPPIANS 3: 4b-14** **PEW BIBLE NO. 1431**

**\*\*GOSPEL READING** **MATTHEW 21: 33-46** **PEW BIBLE NO. 1173**

L. This is the word of God for the people of God.

**P. Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** "UNITED TOWARDS THE GOAL" **REV. ERIKA MARTINEZ-FLORES**

**\*\*COMMUNION HYMN** "AS WE GATHER AT YOUR TABLE" **TFWS NO. 2268**

## CALLED TO COMMUNITY AND TO SHARE

**THE LORD'S TABLE**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

L: The Lord be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

**P: We lift them up to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**P: 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, Creating God, even in the midst of such strange times around the world.....

And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

**Holy, holy, holy, 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.**

Around the world our tables look different and even strange today, .....

.....The disciples did not understand. We do not understand. But we remember.

May our remembering connect us to you and one another even in such strange times. So let us proclaim this mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Pour out your Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread and cup, pointing us toward that day when we who are many will partake of one loaf and one cup.....

And now with the confidence of children of God, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**SILENT PRAYER, COMMUNITY PRAYER**

**OFFERING** "ALL YE WHO ON THIS EARTH DO DWELL" *arr by Albert Beck*

**\*\*DOXOLOGY** **UMH No. 95**

**\*\*OFFERING PRAYER**

**\*\*CLOSING HYMN** "WE'VE A STORY TO TELL TO THE NATIONS" **UMH No. 569**

## SENT TO SERVE

**\*\*APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION**