

October 5, 2025
World Communion Sunday
Montevallo Presbyterian Church

Prelude

“Solace” (A Mexican Serenade) by Scott Joplin
Magnus Eck

Welcome and Invitation to Worship

Introit "Bread of the World in Mercy Broken"

Call to Worship Dorothy Grimes

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world and those who live in it.

What shall we return for the Lord
for all the good things God has done?
**We will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.**

Opening Prayer

Hymn #301 “Let Us Build a House” (All Are Welcome)

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**As we come today to your great table, O God,
we realize how small we have made our own.**

**Our vision of grace is too narrow,
and our awareness of your mercy is too limited.
Our understanding of your kingdom falls short.**

**Hear our prayers and forgive the smallness
of our table and our hearts.
Raise our vision, lift our hearts,
and fill our spirits,
so that we may live joyfully
in the abundant way of Jesus.**

The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Musical Response #437 "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!"

*You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!*

The Peace

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading 2 Timothy 1:1-14 NRSV/UE

[1] Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

[2] To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and our Christ Jesus our Lord.

[3] I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. [4] Recalling your tears, I long to see you

so that I may be filled with joy. [5] I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. [6] For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, [7] for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

[8] Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, [9] who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, [10] but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. [11] For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, [12] and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. [13] Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. [14] Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

The Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm

Psalm 24 ICEL

God owns this planet and all its riches.
The earth and every creature belong to God.

**God set the land on top of the seas
and anchored it in the deep.**

Who is fit to climb God's mountain
and stand in God's holy place?
Whoever has integrity:
not chasing shadows, not living lies.

**God will bless them,
their savior will bring justice.
These people long to see the Lord,
they seek the face of Jacob's God.**

Stretch toward heaven, you gates,
open high and wide.
Let the glorious sovereign enter.

**Who is this splendid ruler?
The Lord of power and might,
the conqueror of chaos.**

Stretch toward heaven, you gates,
open high and wide.
Let the glorious sovereign enter.

**Who is this splendid ruler?
The Lord of heaven's might,
this splendid ruler is God.**

Anthem "Lift Up the Gates Eternal" (Psalm 24)

Second Scripture Reading Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4 NRSV/UE

[1:1] The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

[2] O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,

and you will not listen?

Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save?

- [3] Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
- [4] So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

- [2:1] I will stand at my watchpost and station myself
on the rampart;
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.
- [2] Then the LORD answered me and said:
Write the vision; make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.
- [3] For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.
- [4] Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

For the Word of God in scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us,
thanks be to God.

Sermon The Rev. Dana Waters

Hymn #300 “We Are One in the Spirit”

Announcements and Invitations to Discipleship

Prayers of the People

Offering / Offertory

“He’s Got The Whole World In His Hands” by M. Brandt
Magnus Eck

Doxology “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all creatures here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.*

The Sacrament of Communion

adapted from a liturgy by John Wurster and Keatan King

The Invitation

People will come from east and west and north and south
to sit at table in the kingdom of God.

They come with hope and with doubt.

They come with faith and with fear.

They come with love and with regrets.

They come from all over.

They come across all barriers and boundaries.

They come,

for God longs for it to be so.

**Joining people across the globe
and joining saints of every time and place,**

we come to this table today.

Everyone is welcome.

God longs for it to be so—
 God longs to feed us all
 with the bread of life
 and the cup of salvation.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God our Creator...

...But you broke the powers of death
 and raised Christ to new life.

[The Words of Institution]

Come, Holy Spirit, upon this bread and this cup—
 that they may be the communion of
 the body and blood of Christ...

...Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 all glory and honor are yours, Almighty God,
 now and forever. Amen.

Our Father who art in heaven...

The Communion of the People

Prayer after Communion

Nourishing God, thank you for inviting us to your table
and for feeding us with the bread of life
and the cup of blessing.

**As you have filled our lives with love and hope,
may we be a source of your love and hope
for those who are hungry for bread and
for your good news. Amen.**

A Time for Children

“God of Great and God of Small”

*God of great and God of small, God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong, God to whom all things belong,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.*

Charge and Blessing

Postlude

“You Shall Go Out with Joy”

*You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
and the mountains and the hills will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands
while you go out with joy.*