

**STITTSVILLE UNITED CHURCH**

**Growing - Together - In Spirit**

**World Communion Sunday      October 4, 2020**

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**WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD**

**Music to Prepare for Worship:**

**Invitation to Worship:**

**Hymn: "Now Thank We All Our God"**

**#236**

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- 1 Now thank we all our God, with heart,  
and hands, and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**
- 2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ill in this world and the next.**
- 3 All praise and thanks to God  
for all that has been given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest  
who dwell in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

**Welcome & the Life and Ministry of Our Church**

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD FOR US**

**Scripture:** Colossians 3:12-17 and Psalm 107 (selected verses)

**Sermon:** "Thanksgiving Dinner."

2

**Musical Offering:**

**WE RESPOND IN LOVE**

**Call to Prayer:** (Playing of the Koshi Chimes)

**Prayers for Healing and Transformation  
The Lord's Prayer**

**Invitation to Receive and Offer God's Gifts:**

**Reverse Offering:** Stittsville Food Bank

**Song of Dedication:** (#541 (VU))

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**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures high and low.  
Give thanks to God in love made know,  
Creator, Word and Spirit One. Amen..**

**Prayer of Dedication:**

**WE SHARE IN COMMUNION**

**Hymn: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (vs. 1 & 2) #468**

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- 1 Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

**Chorus:**

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

- 2 Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express.**

**Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

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

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

**All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: O Eternal Our God, we give thanks that from the very beginning, your Spirit breathed life and love into all creation. Through the ages people have opened their hearts to your Spirit, have cherished your gift of life and have shared your love. Even in the face of the darkness which stifles your Spirit, threatens life, and resists love, there were those who believed that One would come who would embody and proclaim abundant life. We give thanks that in Jesus the Christ your self-giving, world changing love has been revealed, that he came to bring justice and compassion, healing and peace to our hurting and broken world. And so we join our voices with the faithful through the ages to offer you our praises as we sing:

**All: #932 Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might; heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in your name. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

One: O God we are grateful that to those bound by fear and despair Jesus offers the invitation to come and find rest and peace by joining in community at the banquet of life and love you spread before us. May we embrace his good news that justice and healing are here for all. Today we come to this feast of life knowing that Jesus' vision is not yet fully here. There are many without bread. There are those still oppressed. There are some who continue to abuse power. There are people who feel unworthy. This bread and cup remind us we that we are nourished by the love Christ embraced and shared. Send your Spirit among us God and on these gifts that we might be re-awakened to your life among us now and always. Amen.

**Receiving the Bread and Cup:**

(We each partake of the bread and cup.)

**Prayer Following Communion:**

**We offer you our thanks, O God, that through sharing this bread and cup, we have been reminded of your love for us in Jesus Christ, and of our unity with all of your people around the world. May the sharing of this meal be a sign of our faith, that you journey with us and all people, even through the difficult times, that your love can remove any barrier within and among us, and that you call us to strive to bring the peace of Christ to all of our relationships and to all the world. Amen.**

**WE GO FORTH IN SERVICE**

**Hymn: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (vs. 3) #468**

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**3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out,  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) everywhere!**

**Chorus:**

**Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!**

**Commissioning and Blessing:**

**Threefold Amen:**

**#967**

**Music To Inspire Us As We Go:**