



Election Eve
Communion &
Prayer Service

Worship Bulletin November 4, 2024 | 7 PM

Thank you for joining us for tonight's service of Prayer and Holy Communion. You are invited to remember your baptism by touching the water in the baptismal font as you enter and exit worship.

Prelude | Melissa Chavez

Welcome & Announcements | Rev. Pam Bentley

Statement of Purpose | Rev. Pam Bentley

We gather together in this place, in the presence of God, to remember that our identity is not rooted in political affiliations, but in our covenant with God who created us in God's own image; that we are one through Jesus Christ and members of his body; and that the Holy Spirit binds us together into one family.

Call to Prayer | Rev. Pam Bentley

[One] If this election season has left you feeling hopeless and heartsick

[All] Come, hear God's word of peace, hope and unity.

[One] If you feel like your voice is lost in the public square

[All] Come, and remember the covenant God has made with you, to never leave you.

[One] If political views and rhetoric have damaged your relationships

[All] Come to the table where all are forgiven and welcomed.

[One] If the brokenness of the world, the nation, and the city seem beyond repair

[All] Come to pray for the coming of God's realm here and now.

Opening Song | *O God Our Help in Ages Past* | UMH 117 | led by Melissa Chavez

**[V.1] O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!**

**[V.2] Under the shadow of thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

**[V.3] Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God, to endless years the same.**

**[V.4] A thousand ages, in thy sight, are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night, before the rising sun.**

**[V.5] Time, like an ever rolling stream, bears all who breathe away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.**

**[V.6] O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.**

Scripture Readings | Rev. SeongJae Jo and Rev. Pam Bentley

First Reading: Ephesians 4.1-5

**[Prayer] Lord Jesus, teach us how to love all the people you love, as hard
as that feels. Help us to love because your love has changed us inwardly.
Amen**

Second Reading: John 17.20-23

**[Prayer] Lord Jesus, as our nation votes, please rid my spirit of contempt
and judgment. Remind me that people, in my nation or in my family circle,
who disagree with me aren't necessarily dishonest or unworthy of love.
Amen**

Prayers of the People | Rev. SeongJae Jo and Rev. Pam Bentley

Out of gratitude for your many gifts, O God, and trusting in your abiding faithfulness. We pray for our president-elect, that they will lead our country with strength and compassion; that they may represent the very best of the United States around the globe; that they may be committed to justice and peace, and with bringing our nation together to address our challenges.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our governors and legislators, that they will be responsive to their whole constituency and enact laws that ensure the well-being of all the people they represent.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for all others elected to public office, that their service to their people would be just and beyond reproach; that wherever they serve in local government, schools, or law enforcement, they would treat all people with dignity and serve the common good.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our nation, our cities, and our neighborhoods, that together we can create a place where all people are respected and safe, where difference of opinion does not lead to violence, and where our combined creativity heals brokenness of all kinds.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray also that regardless of the outcome of this Election Day, we would remember that we are called by Christ to extend God's grace. Show us how we might grow in kindness and love, and give us bravery to share it with our neighbors. Guide us to pursue peace and work for justice in our

communities. Inspire us to work together, across divisions and despite differences, to create connected communities wherever we can.

Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray all of these things in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

Holy Communion and Remembering Baptism | Rev. SeongJae Jo and Rev. Pam Bentley

INVITATION

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him,
who earnestly repent of their sin
and seek to live in peace with one another.
Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.
In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven! Glory to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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,

Electing God, you chose humanity when you created us in your image; you chose a people for yourself when you called Abraham; you chose freedom when you led your children with Moses through the Red Sea.

In Jesus you chose us despite the folly and failure of our own choices; and in his resurrection and ascension you chose us for yourself, forever. And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and celebrate the glory for which you have elected us.

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection

You gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death,

And make with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

In the water of baptism we affirm that we belong to God.

In the water of baptism we are united with Jesus Christ in his death and resurrection.

In the water of baptism we are made one with the church through the Holy Spirit.

In the water of baptism we receive our commissioning to ministries of love, peace and justice.

Remember your baptism and be glad!

Living God, as you rejoice in making all things new, create your new community of love among us gathered here, that in this holy meal we may together glimpse your new heaven and new earth.

As we remember Christ's saving passion, transform your church through the renewing of our minds, that we may discern your good and pleasing and perfect will and walk the paths that lead to peace.

Send your Holy Spirit upon this bread and cup that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Everlasting God, you have taught us to search for you with all our heart and to seek the welfare of the land where you have placed us.

Send your Spirit upon those who lead, pour your wisdom on those who are elected, and restore by your mercy all who are not chosen.

Through your same Spirit, visit your people in the struggles that no vote can resolve; show us where what you call from us is love and forgiveness and mercy; empower your church to overcome evil with good. Since here we have no abiding city, give us a yearning for the city that is to come.

Hasten the day when all that would separate us from one another will fall away, when we rejoice to enter that dwelling place where you have chosen to be with us forever, where all is redeemed in the presence of the Son through the power of the Spirit, God most high.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Song | *Your Peace Will Make Us One* | Audrey Assad | led by Melissa Chavez

[V.1] Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord
You are speaking truth to power; you are laying down our swords
Replanting every vineyard 'til a brand new wine is poured
Your peace will make us one

[V.2] I've seen you in our home fires burning with a quiet light
You are mothering and feeding in the wee hours of the night
Your gentle love is patient you will never fade or tire
Your peace will make us one

[Chorus] Glory glory hallelujah; Glory glory hallelujah
Glory glory hallelujah; Your peace will make us one

[V.3] In the beauty of the lilies you were born across the sea
With a glory in your bosom that is still transfiguring
Dismantling our empires till each one of us is free
Your peace will make us one

Post Communion Prayer | **Prayer for Peace** | *Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi* | Rev. SeongJae Jo

Lord, make us an instrument of your peace:
where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O divine Master, grant that we may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console, to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive,
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen

Closing Song | *My Hope Is Built* | UMH 368 | led by Melissa Chavez

**[V.1] My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

**[Refrain] On Christ the solid rock I stand, all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**[V.2] When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)**

**[V.3] His oath, his covenant, his blood supports me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.
(Refrain)**

**[V.4] When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be
found!
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne!
(Refrain)**

Blessing | Rev. SeongJae Jo

Go from this time of prayer into the world
to be people of love, justice, peace and hope,
and may God—Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer—
guide and support you in all you do. Amen.

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