



First Presbyterian
Church *of* Dunedin

September 27, 2026

Celebration

of God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Sentences (from Psalm 78)

Marion Yongue, Liturgist

Listen, dear friends, to God's truth,
bend your ears to what God tells you.

We will pass along the marvelous things God has done.

God is chewing on the morsel of a proverb;
God will tell us the sweet old truths,

We will pass along the marvelous things God has done.

These are stories we heard from our fathers,
counsel we learned at our mother's knee.

We're not keeping this to ourselves.

We will pass along the marvelous things God has done.

***Hymn 610 – "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"**

**The Congregation is invited to rise in body or in spirit.*

***Prayer of Confession**

All-embracing God,

**In recalling all that you are and all that you have done,
we recall then who we are and what we have done or failed to do.**

**We confess that we have failed to comfort those in pain,
ignored the needs of others,**

**failed to stand with our neighbors
in their struggle for dignity and respect.**

We confess the sins of your church.

**We repent of our past sins and pray for the wisdom
to walk in a new way with you and with one another.**

(pause for silent personal confession)

Amen.

***Assurance of Pardon**

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***Response (Hymn 447)**

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven.
Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

Discovery

of God's love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.

Prayer for Understanding

Please pray with me:

**Send us your Spirit of wisdom, O God, that we may hear your Word
speaking through the Scriptures and understand what you are saying
to the church today. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading – Exodus 17:1-7

Pew Bible, page 56

The Word of the Lord! /Thanks be to God!

Choral Response

"Welcome to God's Love"

Families of all shapes and kinds,
Love the only tie that binds
This gathering of open minds,
Welcome to God's love.

Every person has a place
In this holy sacred space,
Earth's entire human race,
Welcome, welcome, welcome,
welcome.

Come and feel God's love.
No proof required of your worth,
A gift to you before your birth

From God, who made the heavens
and earth.

Welcome to God's love.
We'll love each other and take
care
Of every need encountered there,
Within God's heart there is room
to spare.

Welcome, welcome, welcome,
welcome.
Welcome to God's love.
Come, and live God's love.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 21:23-32

Pew Bible, page 802

The Gospel of the Lord! /Praise to You, O Christ!

Sermon

Rev. Dr. David Shelor

***Hymn 274 – “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”**

***Affirmation of Faith – The Apostles’ Creed**

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 at 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.**

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

Prayers of the People & 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 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.

Action

for God’s love, justice, and peace in creation, in others and in ourselves.

Call - *To creation, to others, to self*

We invite you to consider the ways you are called to serve.
Your generosity helps build God's Beloved Community and change lives.

Prayer of Dedication Please pray with me:

**Generous God, we have received so much from you in Christ
and in creation. Bless the gifts we offer so that they will speak
of your love for the world in all its detail and diversity. Amen.**

***Hymn 632 – “People of the Lord”**

***Benediction & Sharing Peace**

***Postlude**

Again, welcome, All! It is good to be together!

You are invited to a time of fellowship and refreshment in Hager Hall.

Hearing assistance devices and large print hymnals are available.

An usher would be glad to help you.

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