



First Presbyterian
Church *of* Dunedin

August 16, 2026

Celebration

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

Prelude

Welcome

Opening Sentences

Eric Wells, Liturgist

Let the nations be glad and sing with joy,

For God guides us all with justice and equity.

Let the people praise God, for how we have been blessed;

Come let us worship and offer all honor and praise.

***Hymn 408 – “There’s a Sweet, Sweet Spirit”**

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

***Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God,

we confess that we have not lived as you have taught us.

Forgive us those times we have not welcomed others

into our community;

and those times we have avoided others

because of our fear and prejudices.

Forgive us the ways we have judged people unfairly.

Reveal to us your ways,

and show us how to see your goodness in those

who seem different from us.

(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 582)**

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

Discovery

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

Prayer for Understanding

Please pray with me:

**God of grace, as we gather to hear your Word, silence any thoughts that
distract us. Open our hearts to receive the challenge and the comfort
you offer in the name of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.**

Old Testament Reading – Genesis 45:1-15

Pew Bible, page 37

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

Choral Response " God of Great and God of Small"

Sleeth

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, Praised be Thy Name.

God of land and sky and sea, God of life and destiny,
God of never ending pow'r, Yet beside me every hour,
Alleluia, Praised be Thy Name.

God of silence, God of sound, God in whom the lost are found,
God of day and darkest night, God whose love turns wrong to right,
God of heav'n and God of earth, God of death and God of birth,
God of now and days before, God who reigns forevermore,

Alleluia, Praised be Thy Name.

Gospel Reading – Matthew 15:10-28

Pew Bible, page 797

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

Sermon

Rev. Dr. David Shelor

***Hymn 432 – “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord”**

***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:

**O God, we place our hope and trust in your loving kindness.
Because we want to praise you with more than just words,
we offer our gifts to support Christ's mission in the world.
Bless these gifts and use our energy for your good purposes,
so that the world will know your loving kindness. Amen.**

***Hymn 754 – “Help Us Accept Each Other”**

***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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