First Presbyterian Church of Dunedin

November 8, 2026

Celebration

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

Prelude
Welcome
Opening Sentences (inspired by Psalm 78) Peggy George, Liturgist

Listen, people of God, to the stories of faith
passed down through generations.
We will share the stories of God's love, justice, and faithfulness.
We will teach our children and all who come after us to trust in God.
We will remember God's works and live with hope,
seeking a world shaped by love and compassion.
Let us worship God!

***Hymn 625 – "How Great Thou Art"**

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

***Prayer of Confession**

God of mercy,
you call us to love our neighbors and serve your purposes.
We confess that this is easier said than done.
When things get complicated, we lose patience and turn away.
When we are unprepared for a challenge,
we excuse ourselves from taking part.
Forgive us, O God.
Renew our willingness to put ourselves on the line for your love.

(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:

God of prophets and parables, your Word can meet us with a challenge, a puzzle and a promise. Send your Spirit with the gifts of understanding to grasp the puzzle and courage to take up the challenge and the promise, through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Joshua 24.1-3a, 14-25 Pew Bible, page 187

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

Choral Response "He Is Making All Things New" Hagenberg

Light after darkness, gain after loss
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears
Home after wandering, praise after tears

Alpha and Omega
Beginning and the end
He is making all things new
Springs of living water
Shall wash away each tear
He is making all things new

Sight after mystery, sun after rain
Joy after sorrow, peace after pain;
Near after distant, gleam after gloom
Love after loneliness, life after tomb

Alpha and Omega
Beginning and the end
He is making all things new
Springs of living water
Shall wash away each tear
He is making all things new

Gospel Reading – Matthew 25:1-13 Pew Bible, page 806

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

Sermon Rev. Dr. David Shelor

***Hymn 175 – "Seek Ye First"**

***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:

God of purpose and promise, we offer our gifts to help fulfill your purposes on earth. Bless our gifts and our actions so that others will grasp the promise of your love and discover your purpose for their lives, through Christ, our friend and savior. Amen.

***Hymn 757 – "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"**

***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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