

Pilgrim's Online Worship will begin at 9:30. If you are reading this message you are in the right place!

While you wait, download the order of worship and hymns from the bottom of the page at:

<https://www.pilgrimcongregational.org/worship-music>

Welcome to our early folks! Our worship leaders are muted as we continue to prepare.

You may use the chat function in Zoom to greet one another now.

This service will be recorded.

Please stay muted for now.



# Pilgrim Congregational Church

## United Church of Christ

### September 6, 2020

## The Sacrament of Communion

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## *Welcome to Pilgrim Church UCC*

### *Online Summer Worship 2020*

Pilgrim Church provides a welcoming home for all people. We are seekers on a faith journey. We seek meaning in our lives, authentic relationships with one another and with God, and how best to use our gifts to further Christ's message of compassion for all God's people. We are a congregation on the move, paying attention to the world and making a real difference. We believe that when we serve our sisters and brothers, we are serving God.

We believe that Christian faith needs to be connected to how we live today. We fuse our faith and what we experience on Sunday mornings with our thoughts and actions during the week. When we come to church, we don't check our minds at the door either. Instead, we come to figure out some of life's complexities side by side. As our United Church of Christ often relates, "Our faith is 2,000 years old, but our thinking is not."

As we worship online this summer, we are working to stay connected to one another and our community. Please be in touch with Pastor Reebee (pastor@pilgrimcongregational.org or via the church office phone) if you know of a pastoral need.

We thank our summer worship leaders for their efforts this year:

Dot Bowe & Jim Munkres, Music

Rev. Reebee Girash, Sarah Jane Fuller

Susan Carabbio, Mona Roy, Dick Edmiston, and Bruce Nickerson

### **Pilgrim Church Mission Statement**

A welcoming home to all spiritual seekers

Making a difference in our world,

By fusing our Christian faith with everyday life and

Serving God by serving others.

### **Pilgrim Church Statement of Welcome**

We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God first loved us. We welcome into the full life and ministry of the church all people of any race, nationality, religious background, educational background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, economic status, and physical, mental, and emotional abilities.

Pilgrim Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
September 6, 2020  
The Sacrament of Communion

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Reebee Girash

Call to Worship

One: Blessed be the name of God, from this time and forever more.

**All: From the rising of the sun to its setting; the name of God is to be praised.**

One: It is good to give thanks to God, to sing praises to your name, O Most High.

**All: To declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.**

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we offer up to you the times our hearts were bitter and we refused to forgive, or when we were sad and refused to be comforted, or when we were dismissive to others and didn't share love. Forgive us, and renew our lives. Amen.**

## Words of Assurance and the Lord's Prayer

One: God brings you new life, forgives you, and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness, and live your life in the spirit of Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying:

**All: Our Father (Creator), 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.**

Hymn **Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise** NCH 1

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Walter C. Smith, 1867, alt.

1 Tim. 1:17; Ps. 36

1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,  
2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,  
3 Your life is life - giv - ing— to both great and small;  
4 So per - fect your glo - ry, so bril - liant your light,

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,  
not want - ing, not wast - ing, but rul - ing in might;  
in all life you're liv - ing, the true life of all;  
your an - gels a - dore you, all veil - ing their sight;

Most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,  
Your jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove,  
We blos - som and flour - ish as leaves and as flowers,  
All praise we now ren - der as your an - gels do:

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, your great name we praise.  
your clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.  
then with - er and per - ish— but naught dims your powers.  
in awe at the splen - dor of light hid - ing you.

Walter C. Smith, minister of the Free Church of Scotland and later moderator of the Assembly, wrote poetry as a retreat from work and to say what could not be fully expressed in the pulpit.

Tune: ST. DENIO 11.11.11.11.  
Adapt. from a Welsh ballad in John Roberts' Caniadaeth y Cysegr, 1839

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;  
Your justice like mountains high soaring above  
your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 Your life is life-giving - to both great and small;  
in all life you're living, the true life of all;  
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers,  
then wither and perish - but nought dims your powers.
- 4 So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,  
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;  
All praise we now render as your angels do:  
in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

Scripture

Meditation

Hymn **Be Thou My Vision** NCH 391

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Nought be all else to me save that thou art.  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, I thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,  
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.
- 4 High King of heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all. A-men.

391

Be Thou My Vision

*Ancient Irish*

*Tr. by Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931*

*Verified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935*

SLANE 10.10.9.10.

*Traditional Irish Melody*

*Harm. by David Evans, 1874-1948*

*In unison*

1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise,  
4 High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

Nought be all else to me save that thou art.  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
Thou mine in - her - it - ance, now and al - ways;  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Thou my great Fa - ther, I thy true son;  
Thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

Wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
Thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
High King of heav - en, my treas - ure thou art.  
Still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all. A - men.

CONSECRATION



## Call to Prayer

One: God be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us pray.

## Pastoral Prayer

### Offering and Musical Offertory

*If you would like to support Pilgrim Church, you may mail in a check or arrange electronic giving by contacting Dave McClave. Additionally, we now accept donations using a credit card or PayPal on our website under the tab Learning, Growing and Caring and select Giving. Thank you for your support.*

## Invitation and Communion Prayer

### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*This summer we are worshipping online. You are invited to bring bread and juice to worship on Communion Sundays so that we may observe the feast together.*

# Communion Hymn **Let us Break Bread Together** 330 NCH

1 Let us break bread together on our knees,  
let us break bread together on our knees.

*[Refrain]*

*When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun,  
My God, have mercy on me.*

2 Let us drink wine together on our knees,  
let us drink wine together on our knees.

*When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
My God, have mercy on me.*

3 Let us praise God together on our knees,  
let us praise God together on our knees.

*When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
My God, have mercy on me.*

330

Let Us Break Bread Together

*Acts 2:42*

*African-American spiritual*

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It features three vocal parts (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; \* 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees. The score includes a refrain section with the lyrics: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun, My God, have mer - cy on me. The score concludes with first and second endings.

### Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

**We give you thanks, O God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world united in courage and peace. Amen.**

### Unison Benediction

**May we go out into the world in the power of the Holy Spirit to fulfill our high calling as disciples of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

### Closing Response

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.