

# Living Out God's Call to Joy and to Justice

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen  
Sunday Worship -- July 6, 2025 – A Communion Service



Erick Ayoti; *Church Ladies*

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## Opening Sentences

- We are the church, the Body of Christ, who is our Head.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

## Prelude

## Call to Worship

*Please rise in body or in spirit for the Call to Worship.*

God's mercy is deeper than we can imagine.

**God's love is stronger than we can comprehend.**

God's power is more mighty,

**God's presence more endless,**

God's truth more holy than any words can express.

**Thanks be to God for the boundless gift of grace.**

Let us worship God together.

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey;  
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;  
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,  
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!  
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you send us out into the world  
as your disciples.  
Allow the church to be a healing presence,  
a place and a people that live out the essence  
of your kingdom, here and now;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever. Amen.

Call to Confession

Secure in the promise of God's steadfast love  
and trusting in God's readiness to forgive and restore us,  
let us bring to God our prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession

**Lord, reform your world,  
beginning with me. Amen.**

*A moment of silent prayer.*

Declaration of Forgiveness

Always, God seeks us out.  
With abundant grace and boundless mercy,  
God seeks us out.  
Friends, hear and trust in the good news of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.**  
**Thanks be to God!**

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord be with you all. / **And also with you.**

Life of the ChurchPrayer for Illumination

O God,  
as your Gospel is proclaimed,  
open our ears to hear your Word,  
open our eyes to see your truth,  
and open our hearts to receive your grace.  
Amen.

Gospel Reading

Luke 10:1-11 (NRSV)

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace be to this house!'" <sup>6</sup> And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'

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

Sermon / Congregational Discussion *Revisiting the Church Animal Farm*



### Hymn

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!

GG #305

Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church in song!  
For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,  
empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,  
as we in mission magnify the Crucified!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

Come sing, O church in joy! Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!  
In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!

### Invitation to the Offering

God is the source of all life and the giver of every blessing.  
Let us respond to God's great generosity to us  
by bringing our tithes and offerings.

### Offertory

#### Act of Dedication

Take My Life; v. 4

GG #697

Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,  
every power as thou shalt choose.

### Offertory Prayer

Loving God, with these gifts,  
bring healing and hope  
where illness and despair prevail.  
Bring peace into the warring madness of our world,  
and shine the light of your love  
into every dark corner.  
Loving God, transform these gifts  
and transform each of us  
that we may be your loving presence  
and your healing hope in the world.  
Amen.



Christ Sending Out the Seventy Disciples Two by Two by James Tissot

### The Sacrament of Communion

#### Invitation to the Table

On this morning, as we celebrate the blessings God has granted this congregation and seek to discern the future God wills for us, it is fitting that we gather at our Lords' table where we, as Christ's church, are nourished in spirit and in body.

Because this church – First Presbyterian of McAllen – is a part of the long, rich, diverse story of Christ's church, it is fitting that our Prayer of Great Thanksgiving is an ancient eucharistic prayer attributed to Hippolytus of Rome and dated to the early third century. The blessings we have known and the future we dream are not ours alone, for with Christians from every age and all places, we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord. The unity we find in Christ Jesus is expressed in the communion we share at this table, to which our Lord invites us all.

#### Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

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

We give you thanks, O God,  
through your beloved Servant, Jesus Christ,  
whom you have sent in these last times  
as Savior and redeemer, and messenger of your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you,  
through whom you made all things  
and in whom you take delight.  
You sent him from heaven into the Virgin's womb,  
where he was conceived, and took flesh.  
Born of the Virgin by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
he was revealed as your Son.

In fulfillment of your will  
he stretched out his hands in suffering  
to release from suffering those who place their trust in you,  
and so won for you a holy people.  
He freely accepted the death to which he was handed over,  
in order to destroy death  
and to shatter the chains of the evil one;  
to trample underfoot the powers of hell  
and to lead the righteous into light;  
to fix the boundaries of death  
and to manifest resurrection.

And so he took bread, gave thanks to you, and said:  
"Take, and eat; this is my body, broken for you."  
In the same way, he took the cup, saying:  
"This is my blood, shed for you.  
When you do this, do it for remembrance of me."

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection,  
we set before you this bread and cup,  
thankful that you have counted us worthy  
to stand in your presence  
and serve you as your priestly people  
We ask you to send your Holy Spirit  
upon the offering of the holy church.  
Gather into one all who share these holy mysteries,  
filling them with the Holy Spirit  
and confirming their faith in the truth,  
that together we may praise you and give you glory,  
through your Servant, Jesus Christ.



Through him, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,  
now and forever. Amen.

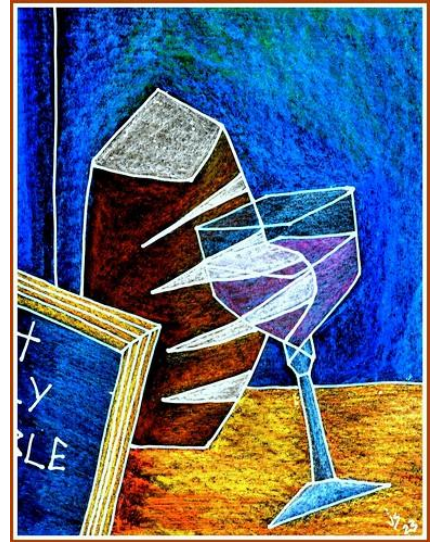
Let us pray as Christ has taught us, saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

### Sharing Bread and Cup

### Prayer after Communion

O God, send us out from our Lord's table  
to answer his summons into new life  
and to follow him with joy and gladness.  
Set our feet in his holy way,  
that our lives may be signs of his life  
and all we do may show forth his love. Amen.



### Hymn

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 1-2

GG #526

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
  
Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone;  
teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

### Charge and Benediction

### Congregational Response

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, v. 3

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
give us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

### Postlude

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**Today's Worship Leaders:** Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell

Lita Simpson

Caly Fernandez

Kathryn Henry

Beverly Avila

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