

have entrusted us to care for all of creation. We confess the times we have thought too highly of ourselves, and the ways we have twisted our charge to care for creation into permission to dominate and subdue it. We confess the same human tendencies to dominate and subdue other people. It is easy for us to ignore or take for granted our own privilege, rather than seeking to dismantle unjust systems of supremacy. Your desire is for peace, but so often we choose comfort and call it peace. Remind us of who we are, and whose we are. Remind us of our interdependence with creation, and our dependence on you, our Creator. Set our hearts and minds on your will, made known to us in Jesus Christ. Amen.

****Assurance of Forgiveness**

****Hymn**

“Gloria Patri”

*“Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.”*

****The Passing of the Peace of Christ**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Let us share this peace with one another.

THE WORD

Time with Our Youngest Saints

Unison Prayer for Understanding

God of wisdom, though we are mere mortals, you are mindful of us. You know the voices inside and out that distract us. You know the words we need to hear. By the power of your Holy Spirit, enable us now to receive your holy, life-giving Word. Amen.

The Reading from the Old Testament

Job 1:1, 2:1-10

See insert

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Reading from the Gospels

Mark 10:2-16

²Some Pharisees came, and to test him they asked, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?” ³He answered them, “What did Moses command you?” ⁴They said, “Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her.” ⁵But Jesus said to them, “Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. ⁶But from the beginning of creation, ‘God made them male and female.’ ⁷For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, ⁸and the two shall become one flesh.’ So they are no longer two, but one flesh. ⁹Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate.” ¹⁰Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. ¹¹He said to them, “Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her; ¹²and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery.” ¹³People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, “Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it.” ¹⁶And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

Liturgist: The gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A Gift of Music

Sermon

“The Case of the Enduring Mystery”

****Hymn 411**

“Arise, Your Light Is Come!”

****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 on 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.

THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

"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.

Invitation to the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

****Hymn** *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*

"Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!" Amen.

****Prayer of Dedication**

The Holy Supper of Our Lord see insert

THE SENDING

****Hymn 40** *"Joy to the World"*

****Charge and Blessing**

****Postlude**

***please stand as you are able*



First Presbyterian Church of Lancaster

*Order of Worship for Sunday,
October 6, 2024*

World Communion Sunday

Liturgist: Mr. Jim Bryant

Interim Organist—Mr. Jim Parrish

Ushers—Ms. Donna Arnold and Ms. Jo Marks

Pastor—The Reverend Michael Denney

Please silence electronic devices prior to worship.

THE GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

****Call to Worship**

Liturgist: O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!

People: **We proclaim your name to the whole human family.**

Liturgist: We praise you in the midst of this congregation:

People: **O Lord, our God, how majestic is your name in all the earth!**

Liturgist: Let us continue to praise our majestic Creator

****Prayer of the Day**

****Hymn 151** *"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

****Call to Confession**

****Prayer of Confession**

Sovereign God, who are we humans, that you pay any attention to us? And yet, you