

## Service of the Word for Pentecost 20 /Proper 29

### Introduction

Grace and peace to you from God our Creator and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

*Welcome*

### Opening Responses

Heart-stirring God,  
You know each of us by name  
and day by day we discover your favour afresh.  
Your love is new every morning.  
Your Presence remains with us,  
whether we are called to travel or need to stay put.  
You are our rest-giver and the source of our peace.  
We marvel that you choose to be gracious to us.  
We are touched and humbled by the mercy You extend.  
We ask You to stir our hearts and teach us Your ways so that we who belong to You may know more of You.  
Show us Your glory.  
Open our eyes to it, stretching in beauty over the face of the earth,  
shining in the face of Christ Jesus and smiling in the faces of every life lighted by Your Spirit,  
so that we and all Your people may give You glory and worship You in Spirit and in Truth.

*Miriam Stevenson: Singing the Faith Plus  
Methodist church ministries, vocations and worship*

### Hymn 373 How shall I sing that majesty

How shall I sing that Majesty.  
Which angels do admire?  
Let dust in dust and silence lie;  
Sing, sing, ye heavenly choir.  
Thousands of thousands stand around  
Thy throne, O God most high;  
Ten thousand times ten thousand sound  
Thy praise; but who am I?

Thy brightness unto them appears,  
While I Thy footsteps trace;  
A sound of God comes to my ears,  
But they behold Thy face.  
They sing because Thou art their Sun;  
Lord, send a beam on me;

For where heaven is but once begun  
There alleluias be.

Enlighten with faith's light my heart,  
Inflame it with love's fire;  
Then shall I sing and take my part  
With that celestial choir.  
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold,  
With all my fire and light;  
Yet when Thou dost accept their gold,  
Lord, treasure up my mite.

How great a being, Lord, is Thine,  
Which doth all beings keep!  
Thy knowledge is the only line  
To sound so vast a deep.  
Thou art a sea without a shore,  
A sun without a sphere;  
Thy time is now and evermore,  
Thy place is everywhere.

*Tune: Coe Fenn; Words: John Mason c1645-94*

### **Confession & Absolution**

Lord God, our maker and our redeemer,  
this is your world and we are your people:  
come among us and save us.  
We have wilfully misused your gifts of creation;  
Lord, be merciful:  
**forgive us our sin.**

We have seen the ill-treatment of others  
and have not gone to their aid;  
Lord, be merciful:  
**forgive us our sin.**

We have condoned evil and dishonesty  
and failed to strive for justice;  
Lord, be merciful:  
**forgive us our sin.**

We have heard the good news of Christ,  
but have failed to share it with others;  
Lord, be merciful:  
**forgive us our sin.**

We have not loved you with all our heart,  
nor our neighbours as ourselves;  
Lord, be merciful:  
**forgive us our sin.**

*Common Worship*

God who is both power and love forgive us and free us from our sins, heal and strengthen us by the Spirit and lead us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Anthem**     *Gabriel Jackson* The Glory of the Lord

### **Collect**

Almighty and everliving God, increase in us your gift of faith, that forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what is before, we may run the way of your commandments and win the crown of everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

### **Reading** Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses said to the LORD, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight." Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.'

The LORD said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The LORD"; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the LORD continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.'

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

### **Psalm 99**

The LORD reigns:

let all peoples, and all the earth tremble in holy awe.  
**The LORD is great, exalted over all the nations.**

Let all peoples praise the great name of the LORD,  
the one name to be held in holy awe.  
**The LORD, our God is holy.**

Indeed, mighty king, loving justice, you have established order;  
**in Jacob you brought about your justice and actions which put things right.**

Exalt the LORD, and bow down at the footstool of our God.  
**Holy is the LORD.**

Moses and Aaron were among God's priests,  
and Samuel was among those who called on the name of the LORD.  
**They cried to the LORD and the LORD God answered them.**

The LORD God spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;  
**they kept the testimonies of the LORD  
and the decree that the LORD gave them.**

O LORD, our God, you answered them,  
**you were a forgiving God to them,  
but punishing their wrongdoing.**

Exalt the LORD, and bow down at the holy mountain of our God,  
**for the LORD, our God, is holy.**

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## **Hymn      God the Creator**

God the Creator,  
You in love made us  
Who once were nothing  
But now have grown.

We bring the best  
Of all our life offers;  
For you we share  
Whatever we own.

O Christ the Saviour,  
You in love called us  
Who once were no-one  
Lost and alone.  
We pledge to go  
Wherever you summon,  
Making your will  
And purpose our own.

O God the Spirit,  
You in love move us  
Who once were nowhere  
And felt unknown.  
We know our need of  
You for companion  
All things can change  
When not on our own.

And with the people  
Summoned together  
To be the Church  
In which faith is sown  
We make our promise  
To live for Jesus  
And let the world know  
All are God's own.

*Tune: Bunessan; Words and arrangement ©1989 The Iona Community*

## **Gospel**      Matthew 22: 15-22

*When it is announced:* **Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, 'Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?' But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, 'Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.' And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, 'Whose head is this, and whose title?' They answered, 'The emperor's.' Then he said to them, 'Give

therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's.' When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

At the end: Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.  
**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

**Sermon** The Provost

**Anthem** Byrd Be Unto Me

### **Affirmation of faith**

Do you believe and trust in God the Father,  
source of all being and life,  
the one for whom we exist?

#### **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,  
who took our human nature,  
died for us and rose again?

#### **We believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
who gives life to the people of God  
and makes Christ known in the world?

#### **We believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

#### **This is our faith.**

**We believe and trust in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

[ascription]

### **Intercessions**

*Prayer is offered for the world and all its people,  
particularly for those who suffer and those in need,  
and for the Church and its calling.*

### **The Lord's Prayer**

As our Saviour Christ has commanded and taught us,  
we are bold to say:

**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 trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen

### **Closing Prayer**

Growing God, we have known your presence.  
**We have lived in your love.**  
Show us your glory.  
**Reveal your glory in us.**  
We will carry your glory from here.  
**We will show it to all your children. Amen.**

*Elsa A Peters UCC*

### **Hymn 333. All my hope on God is founded**

All my hope on God is founded;  
he doth still my trust renew.  
Me through change and chance he guideth,  
only good and only true.  
God unknown,  
he alone  
calls my heart to be his own.

2 Human pride and earthly glory,  
sword and crown betray his trust;  
what with care and toil he buildeth,  
tower and temple, fall to dust.  
But God's power,  
hour by hour,  
is my temple and my tower.

3 God's great goodness aye endureth,  
deep his wisdom, passing thought:  
splendour, light, and life attend him,  
beauty springeth out of naught.  
Evermore  
from his store  
new-born worlds rise and adore.

4 Daily doth th' Almighty giver  
bounteous gifts on us bestow;

his desire our soul delighteth,  
pleasure leads us where we go.  
Love doth stand  
at his hand;  
joy doth wait on his command.

5 Still from earth to God eternal  
sacrifice of praise be done,  
high above all praises praising  
for the gift of Christ his Son.  
Christ doth call  
one and all:  
ye who follow shall not fall.

*Tune: Michael; Words: Herbert Howells. 1892-1983*

### **Blessing & Dismissal**

May God our Father inspire and strengthen us in our work of faith  
May Christ Jesus our brother motivate and sustain us in our labour of love  
May the Spirit our helper establish and build in us a steadfast hope.  
That our living may be a reason for thanksgiving and bring Glory to God.  
Amen.

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Methodist church ministries, vocations and worship*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

### **Voluntary**

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