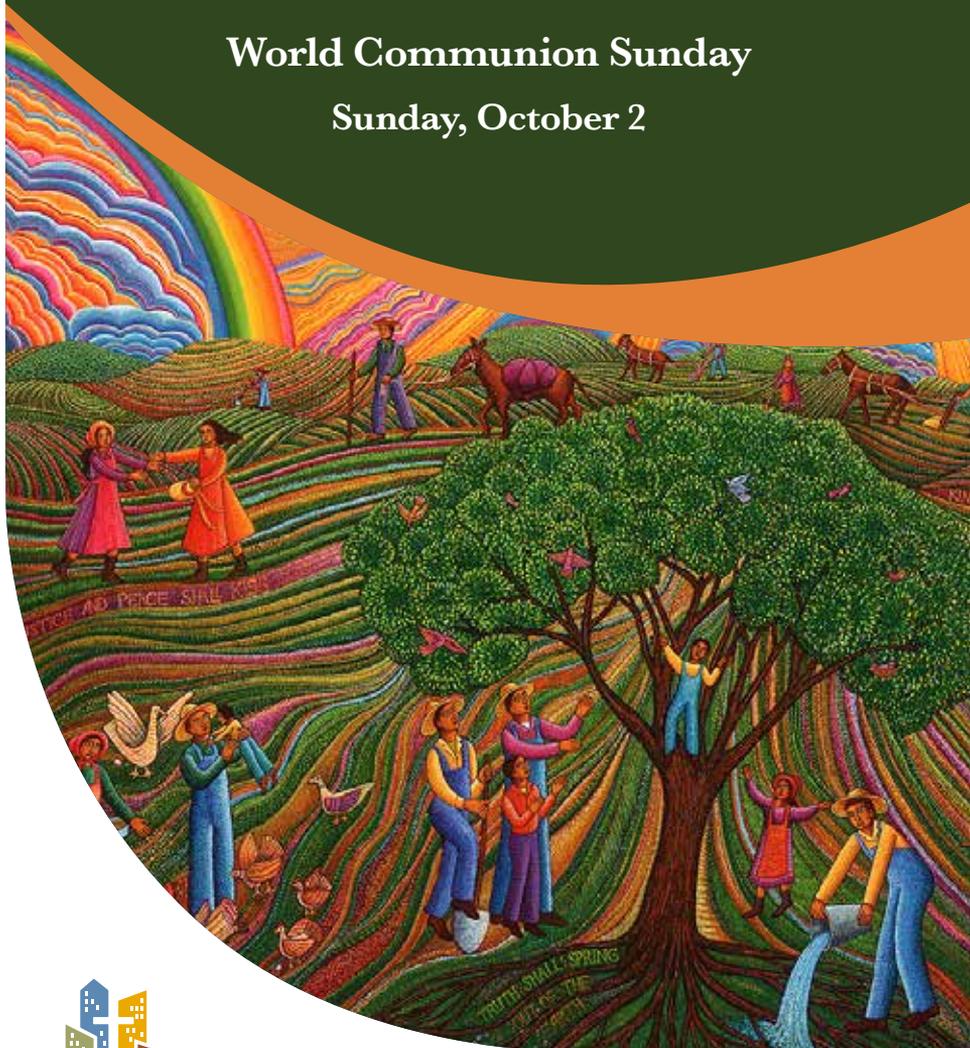


Let us now go forth into the world in peace;
being of good courage; holding fast to that which is good;
rendering to no one evil for evil;
strengthening the faint hearted; supporting the weak; helping
the afflicted; honoring all people; loving and serving the Lord
and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 2



Park Church
IN THE CITY FOR THE CITY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

www.parkchurchgr.org

Order of Worship for October 2, 2022

Gathering and Centering - 10:15am

Announcements - 10:25am

Sanctuary Worship - 10:30am

Gathering and Centering

Phyllis Ann Miner, piano

Today we celebrate World Communion Sunday, worshiping and giving thanks for fellowship with Christians of every tribe and tongue around the world. At the Communion table, God's gift of our diversity is united in worship of Jesus Christ. In I Corinthians the apostle Paul reminds his brothers and sisters of the holiness of the Lord's Supper. Those who receive Communion share in the body and blood of Christ, the spiritual bond that unites all believers across time and space.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Darryl Kistler

Call to Worship

Reading Responsively

One: Today we gather around God's table from near and far.

All: We are the People of God!

One: Though we differ in language, custom, and tradition,

All: We are kindred spirits with Christ!

One: For there is one Lord, one faith, and one baptism.

All: We are One in God's Spirit!

One: We are one and together we remember our Lord Jesus.

All: For we are the people of Redemption!

One: He gave himself up for us, so we could be reconciled to God.

All: Come, let us worship the God of our Salvation!

Prelude

Steven B. Smith, organ

Voluntary on All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Henry Purcell (1659-1695)

+ Introit

The Choral Scholars

Esto les digo

Kinley Lange

Translation:

*This is what I tell you...
If two of you agree here on earth
To ask for something in prayer,
My God (who is in heaven) will give it to you.
Because where two or three gather in my name,
There I am, in their midst.
This is what I tell you.*

Text: Matthew 18:19–20

+ Hymn of Praise - No. 756

O God of Every Nation

Tune: LLANGLOFFAN

+ Opening Prayer

Rev. Dr. Patrick Coyle

One: Jesus prayed that we would all be one. One in spirit, one in mission, in union and communion with each other and with you.

All: Today, God, we re-commit to accomplishing unity, as we set aside yet another day to remind ourselves of the task. On this World Communion Sunday, give us eyes to recognize your reflection in the eyes of people everywhere. Give us a mind to accept and celebrate our differences. Give us a heart big enough to love your children, no matter who or where they are. We thank you for setting a table with space enough for us all! Amen.

+ The Chimes

Blessing of the Children and Youth

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 5:38-48
Mary Bartling, liturgist

One: The Word of God for the People of God...
All: Thanks be to God.

+ Congregational Response

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father (Creator),
and to the Son (Christ) and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, amen.**

The Sermon

Rev. Kistler

Meditation

*Meditation on Ubi Caritas
(Live in Charity and Love)*
Charles Callahan

The Rite of Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

One: May God be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Let us lift up our hearts.

All: **We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us truly give thanks to God.

All: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: Almighty and Creating God, it is a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you. In your likeness you created people who multiplied and became many—people of all races, nationalities, genders, sexual orientations, and abilities. And you blessed all to be very good. On this World Communion Sunday, we gather with peoples around the globe to share in this Sacred Meal, this Holy Feast. As followers of Christ, we gather at his table, with our kindred around the world, to remember, to give thanks, to praise.

One: We rejoice in the God of life, who gives us the grain of the earth and who makes it into the bread of life.

All: We rejoice in the God of life who gives us the fruit of the vine tended with daily care, and puts the flavor of new life into it.

One: May the elements on this table be a visual symbol for us;

All: May our friendship around this table be a visual symbol for the entire world.

(Germany)

Invitation

One: On this 'World Communion Sunday', we gather to celebrate the Rite of Holy Communion with Christians around the world: with people of every nation and First Nations People and people of no nation. Today our communion table stretches beyond all national boundaries to include all of God's Reign of Peace that cannot be defined by borders. All the languages of our lips and hearts are spoken and understood here. The table ever-extends, making more room for anyone who seeks a place.

(Canada)

All: Lord, we give you thanks, for all food that has arrived at our table from your generosity. Bless the people who have made it possible, from the cultivation of the earth until it arrived to us. Grant nourishment of the body to those who are hungry, and to those who hunger for you in their souls, give us the Bread of Life.

(South Africa)

Words of Institution

One: On the night when he was arrested, Jesus had gathered in an upper room with his closest friends and disciples. During the meal, he took bread, gave thanks to you saying:

*Baruch atah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-alom
ha-motzi lechem min ha-aretz.*

He broke it, and shared it with his friends, saying “Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way, after the meal he took the cup, again he blessed it saying,

*Baruch atah Adonai eloheinu melech ha-alom
bor-ay peri ha-gafen.*

Then he said, “Drink from this, all of you. This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

One: Let us pray. Creator God, may this bread connect us more closely with you and with our neighbors near and far.

All: Bless this bread, we pray.

One: May this fruit of the vine remind us of the interconnectedness of people, and the web of life connecting all beings.

All: Bless this bread, we pray.

(Palestine)

Sharing the Bread and Cup

(As you are able and willing, you are now invited to come forward and share in this Rite of Holy Communion in the front of the sanctuary. In honor and in solidarity with our First Nation’s siblings, we will be using The Three Sisters (corn, squash, and rice) in place of bread. All elements are gluten free, nut free, and alcohol free.)

Communion Music

Steven B. Smith, organ
Meditation on Wondrous Love
Charles Callahan

Be Thou Our Guard While Troubles Last
(A Prayer for Peace in Ukraine)
Phil Lehenbauer

Prayer After Communion

(adapted from a prayer written by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell)

Let us pray ... At this table, O God, You sat with your friends, including the one who betrayed You, the one who denied You, the one who doubted You, the ones who argued over who was the greatest. ... We will listen. We will learn. We will seek forgiveness and resolution, and work to repair the brokenness in the world, together. For by Your brokenness, we are made whole.

One: Hear our prayers this day, O God, along the ones that rest on our lips and are the mediations of our hearts. For we pray them all in the name of Christ Jesus, your Son, our Rock and Redeemer, who taught us to bring everything to you in prayer, when we were taught these words to pray:

All:

**O Great Spirit, our Creator, Our Grandparent from above,
We honor your name as sacred and holy.
Bring your good road to us,
where the beauty of your ways in the spirit-world
is reflected in the earth below.
Provide for us day by day –
the elk, the buffalo, the salmon;
the corn, the squash, the wild rice.
All the things we need for each day.
Release us from the things we have done wrong,
in the same way we release others
for the things done wrong to us.
Guide us away from the things that tempt us
to stray from your good road,
and set us free from evil desires and petty endeavors.
For your blessed, eternal,
glorious commonwealth of all beings,
May it be so.**

(First Nations People's Translation of the Lord's Prayer)

Choral Response

The Chancel Choir
Though Our World is Every Changing
Tune: DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

*Though our world is ever-changing,
You are constant, firm and sure,
Faithful to Your covenant promise.
Trusting You, we live, secure:
Singing praises long as heart and breath endure,
Evermore and evermore.*

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory Music

The Chancel Choir
Ukrainian Alleluia
Craig Courtney

Composer's notes...

In the summer of 2007, I had the privilege of being part of a mission team serving in the Ukraine. Because of its geographical position and rich natural resources, the country has a history of foreign invasion, occupation and oppression. It is estimated that more than 25 million Ukrainians were killed during the 20th century due to starvation, war and the deadliest nuclear accident in history. Ukrainian Christians in particular suffered discrimination, arrest, torture, and even death for the sake of their beliefs. This anthem was borne out of the knowledge of these circumstances. It is a musical portrayal of a quiet voice of faith, praise and hope in the midst of suffering and tragedy.

+ Doxology - No. 606

*Praise God, From Who
All Blessings Flow*
Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him (God) all creatures here below;
Praise him (God) above ye heavenly hosts;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
(Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost). Amen.**

+ Prayer of Dedication

Reading in Unison

Gracious God, we thank You for your many gifts to us. You have entrusted so much to us, including the promise of new life. Accept these gifts in return, lovingly given, and empower us by your Spirit to spend our days working for Your purposes. As our church shares Your love with friends and neighbors around the world, including many we haven't met, draw us closer to you. We dedicate our lives and these offerings to that goal. Amen.

+ Hymn - No. 754

Help Us Accept Each Other

Tune: BARONITA

+ Our Common Commission

Reading in Unison

Let us now go forth into the world in peace; being of good courage; holding fast to that which is good; rendering to no one evil for evil; strengthening the faint hearted; supporting the weak; helping the afflicted; honoring all people; loving and serving the Lord and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The service of worship concludes with Our Common Commission.

*If you are leaving the Sanctuary during the Postlude,
please be respectful of the musician and those who are listening.*

Recessional

Steven B. Smith organ

Trumpet Tune

Frederick Swann

Thank you for joining us this morning!

We'd like to know that you were here, answer any questions you have, and support you in prayer. Please fill out the card in your bulletin and place it in the plate during the offering.

The paten (plate), chalice, and pitcher used in the Rite of Holy Communion were originally used by Smith Memorial Cong. UCC, a daughter church on the southwest side of Grand Rapids which closed in 2007 after 120 years. We continue to use this communion set in honor of their legacy.

Please join us downstairs for coffee and fellowship after worship.

Ofield Ten is selling bread and other treats in celebration of World Communion Sunday so bring your wallet.

Pastor Darryl will meet with the youth group (grades 6 -12) after worship upstairs in the youth room.

If you have a pastoral care concern, please contact Pastor Darryl: cell (616)485-1959; email: dkistler@parkchurchgr.org

The Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers at the Pulpit are
in loving memory of Edward Nowlin.
Given by the Judy Furman family.

The flowers on the Children's Altar are
in honor of all the children.
Given by Kathy Miller.

*If you would like to mark an occasion by dedicating Altar flowers,
please contact Marcia Streeter (mabiti1@gmail.com).*

Joys and Concerns

Tom Hollen passed away on Sept. 18 at the age of 77. Tom was a member of Park Church for almost 33 years. We lift his wife Mary and their family up in prayer during this time of grief and remembrance. Services will be held at Park Church on Saturday, October 8 at 11:00am. Visitation will take place at the church on Friday, October 7 from 5:00-8:00pm and preceding the service on Saturday, October 8 at 9:30am. A luncheon will follow. Rev. Darryl Kistler officiating. Condolences can be sent to Mary at 2525 Forest Bluff SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546.

Evelyn Huyser passed away on Sept. 20 at the age of 92. She was an active and steadfast member of Park Church for 14 years. Evelyn was sister to Marj Smith and aunt to Lynda O'Malley, Julie Smith-Boyd, and Kathi Smith-Wegrzyn. Funeral services will be held at Park Church on Friday, October 7 at 11:00am. Visitation will take place preceding the service from 9:30-11:00. A luncheon will follow. Rev. Darryl Kistler officiating.

Please continue to keep Scott Hutchings, his wife Lori Henry-Hutchings and their families in your prayers. Scott continues to fight serious complications related to infection in the Meijer Heart Center ICU. We pray that Lori and her brother Lee are sustained in spirit during this difficult time. Encouragement can be sent to Scott and Lori at 1417 Pine NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504 and to Lee at 447 Newberg NW, Grand Rapids, MI 49504.

Please pray for those managing illness and treatment including IlaFlo Barfuss, Robert Bisbee, Dave Haebich, Ellie Mott, Sydney Mott, Bill Smith, and Gary Waldron.

Please remember those serving in the military including: Joe Birkhold, Jesse Campbell, Kit Grant, Andy MacGregor, Stefan Pawelka, and Matthew Quick.

Youth Choir Rehearsals

Our graduated youth choral program is up and running. Your child is welcome to join! All they have to do is show up! If you have any questions, please email the director.

Carol Choir (4 years old - 2nd grade)

Sundays from 9:30 to 10:15 in the third floor Choir Room

Cheryl Wells, director; cherylwells71@yahoo.com

Cantando Choir (3rd - 5th graders)

Sundays from 9:30 to 10:15 in Thompson Chapel

Heidi Hertel, director; missheidisings@gmail.com

Vonda Karnazes, accompanist

Chapel Choir (6th - 8th graders)

Sundays from 11:10 to 11:30 in Thompson Chapel

Heidi Hertel, director; missheidisings@gmail.com

Vonda Karnazes, accompanist

The Chapel Choir rehearsals are coordinated with the Middle School Sunday School. The transition to the chapel is supervised.

Youth Group (grades 6 - 12)

1st and 3rd Sundays after worship

Third Floor Youth Room

The youth group will meet from 12:00-1:30 on October 2 and 16 after worship in the third floor youth room. Gregg Hampshire is the youth leader, but has a few more weeks to enjoy his paternity leave so Pastor Darryl will lead the October meetings.

We know schedules are complicated. But we promise to feed you so come to the meetings that work for you. Friends are always welcome. Email Pastor Darryl at dkistler@parkchurchgr.org if you have questions.

Park Church Blood Drive

Sunday, October 9

from 8:30 - 1:30

It's time to roll up your sleeves for the Fall Blood Drive on Sunday, October 9. The supply of blood products remains critical and every single donor can make a difference. Let's do what we can to alleviate that shortage and help save a life in West Michigan. You can sign up to donate before, after...or even during the worship service! Hope to see you there!

Call Dave Kutsche at (616) 901-3550 or visit <https://tinyurl.com/e65a7226> to get scheduled.

Ask the Docent...

Sunday, October 9

After Worship

Docent – A docent is an educational guide. Join us each month for a very short explanation of different areas in the church.

This month you can learn about the Children's Altar. Join Fritz Crabb, our church historian, after worship on October 9th, at the children's altar. The children's altar is located on the southeast corner of the sanctuary. Fritz will explain the history of this important and beautiful part of our sanctuary.

Park Church Women Thank Offering

Through October

It's time for the Thank Offering and all the women of Park Church are invited to participate! Please make your check out to Park Church Women and mark your envelope to the attention of Marcia Hammontree. The money is gifted at the direction of the PCW board to various organizations supported by the Park Church Women. The collection wraps up at the end of October.

Serving With You Today

Ushers: Bob Nichols, Doris Robey, Paul Davison, Doug Rubingh,
Jim Butler, Mike Mitchell

Greeters: Nancy and Jim McGlothlin

Parking Lot Greeter: Andrew DeBoer

Sound: Sam Johnson

Video: Andrew DeBoer

Flower Care: Mary Forslund

Nursery: Liz Ferrier, Caitlin Watson, Gyl Hondorp

Little Lambs: Alexia Dominguez, Libby Wahlstrom

Grades Pre-K & K: Alicia Johnson, Tim Johnson

Grades 1, 2 & 3: Donna Boersma, Joshua Brown

Grades 4 & 5: Katie Bradley, Brian Bradley

Carol Choir: Cheryl Wells

Cantando and Chapel Choirs: Heidi Hertel, Vonda Karnazes

Middle School: Kristin Bofysil, Heidi Hertel

Stay in Touch!

Our virtual services are all available to watch on our website: www.parkchurchgr.org. Church news is delivered weekly in our emailed newsletter, *The Congregationalist*. Let the office know if you would like to be added to the list.

Would you like to help?

Look for our P. O. P. (Part of Park) tables in Allinder Commons after each service to find out how you can get involved in the life of Park Church. This week, you can be “Part of Park” by signing up for the blood drive and by buying delicious bread/soup from Ofield Ten. Proceeds benefit Days for Girls.

Park Church Calendar

Sun. Oct. 2 - Sanctuary Worship - World Communion Sunday

Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister

Ofield Ten Bread Sale after worship

Youth Group meets after worship (youth room)

Tues. Oct 4 at 6:30pm - Board of Deacons and committee meetings

Thurs. Oct. 6 at 6:00pm - free chair yoga in Spindler Dining Room

Fri. Oct. 7 at 11:00am - Memorial Service for Evelyn Huyser

Sat. Oct. 8 at 11:00am - Memorial Service for Tom Hollen

Sun. Oct. 9 - Sanctuary Worship: Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister

Blood Drive: before, during, and after worship!

Ask the Docent...about the Children's Altar.

Confirmation Class after worship (youth room)

Tues. Oct. 11 at 12:15pm - Music at Midday: *Eight Hands on Two Pianos*

Tues. Oct. 11 at 7:00pm - Board of Trustees Meeting

Wed. Oct. 12 at 10:00am - Park Church Women Board meeting

Thurs. Oct. 13 at 6:00pm - free chair yoga in Spindler Dining Room

Sun. Oct. 16 - Sanctuary Worship - New Member Sunday

Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister

New Member Reception after worship

Youth Group meets after worship (youth room)

Tues. Oct. 18 at 12:15pm - Music at Midday: *Jonathan Tuuk, organ*

Wed. Oct 19 at 1:00pm - Martenson Ten meeting

Thurs. Oct. 20 at 6:00pm - free chair yoga in Spindler Dining Room

Sun. Oct. 23 - Sanctuary Worship, Rev. Darryl Kistler, Senior Minister

Sun. Oct. 23 at 3:00pm in Lansing - Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel,

Michigan Conference Minister Installation Service.

Mon. Oct 24 - The church office is closed for staff development.

Tues. Oct. 25 at 12:15pm - Music at Midday: *Roger MacNaughton, piano*



An Open and Affirming Congregation

No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

Statement of Welcome and Inclusion

As Jesus demonstrated by his life and teachings,
we fully value and welcome all people into the life of
Park Church, regardless of beliefs or doubts, age, race,
ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical,
mental, or emotional ability, or economic status. In fact, we
value and celebrate the rich diversity of all God's creation.

Our Vision

To build a community of relentless compassion
and courageous hope where all are seen and known,
and the God of extravagant love is revealed.

10 E Park PI NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503

616-459-3203 / office@parkchurchgr.org / www.parkchurchgr.org
www.facebook.com/parkchurchgr

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Friday from 9:00 - 4:00.

The wifi password is parkchurchguest.