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Rev. Amy E. Northridge, Pastor
Louis Allison, Tech Director
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October 25, 2026

9:45 AM

Come to the Table: The Table of Love¹

Thank you for worshiping with us today. If you are a guest, we invite you to take a moment to complete a visitor's card located in the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate when it is passed. We also invite you to sign your name in our guest book located in the back entrance of the sanctuary.

We welcome infants and children and all their wiggles & voices in our worship! We have children's books and activity bags for them to enjoy in the side narthex! Additionally, after the children's message, children from 3 years old—6th grade are invited to participate in Sunday school in our classroom downstairs. They can choose to attend Sunday school or return to their seats to sit with their parents after the children's message. Please see a member of the welcoming team for assistance!

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
JOYS & CONCERNS

SETTING THE TABLE

HYMN (see next page)

Come to the Table of Grace (x2)

INTRODUCTION

*HYMN (see next page)

Come to the Table of Grace

***TAKING OUR PLACE, OPENING TO OTHERS**

L: We come to this table not only for food, but for friendship and family.

C: We are here not only to eat, but to serve.

L: We prepare our meal of bread and fruit of the vine with compassion.

C: We invite everyone to join in the feast.

L: We are all part of one human family.

C: We are united in love.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Come to the Table of Love

Barbara Hamm, 2008

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$\text{♩} = 80$

Piano

Come to the table of love. Come to the table of love.

9

This is God's table it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of love.

*

***OPENING HYMN NCH NO. 554** (black hymnal, see next page) *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

Lord I Want to Be a Christian SATB

African American Spiritual

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Piano

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be a
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be more
 3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be more
 4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart; Lord, I want to be like

7

Christian in my heart. In my heart, in my heart, Lord, I want to be a Christian in my
 lov - ing in my heart. heart. heart. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my
 ho - ly in my heart. heart. heart. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my
 Je - sus in my heart. heart. heart. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my

in my heart *in my heart*

16

heart.
heart.
heart.
heart.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***PEACE AT THE TABLE: CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS BEFORE GOD**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

L: At God's table, love reaches beyond the boundaries we create. Still, we confess how often we keep our love close, care most for those who are already familiar to us, and overlook those waiting at the edges. Trusting in God's abundant mercy, let us confess our sin.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: God of boundless love,

C: when we keep too much for ourselves, teach us to share. When we decide who belongs and who does not, teach us to widen the circle. When we fail to recognize our neighbor, forgive us and open our hearts again.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

P: Friends, hear the good news: God's love reaches beyond every boundary, Christ's welcome is wider than we imagine, and there is a place for you at the table. You are forgiven, loved, and welcomed. We all are forgiven, loved, and welcomed by God. So go and love your neighbor as yourself.

C: Amen.

*ACT OF PRAISE NCH NO. 332 (black hymnal, v.1 see next page) *As We Gather at Your Table*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

As We Gather at Your Table (verse 1)

Carl P. Daw, 1989; Jack Schrader

*Music reproduced and licensed under One License #A-725030.

Piano

$\text{♩} = 80$

1. As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word, help us know, O God, your

7

presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. Nourish us with sacred sto - ry till we claim it as our

13

own; teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Plate Question: How can we share God's love with someone who might feel left out?

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 19:9-18, 33-34 (*The Message Interpretation*)

Mark 7:24-30 (*The Message Interpretation*)

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY (see below)

The Gift of Love

The Gift of Love SATB

Hal Hopson, 1972

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$\text{♩} = 95$
Descant

Piano

Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol, our spir - its

Piano

1. Though I may speak
2. Though I may give
3. Come, Spir - it, come,

with brav - est fire,
all I pos - sess,
our hearts con - trol,

and have the gift
and striv - ing so
our spir - its long

long to be made whole O come and let our in - ward love guide ev - ry

to all in - spire,
my love pro - fess
to be made whole.

and have not love,
but not be given
Let in - ward love

my words are vain,
by love with - in,
guide ev - ry deed;

deed by this we wor - ship and are freed.

as sounding brass,
the prof - it soon
by this we wor -

and hope - less gain.
turns strangely thin.
ship, and are freed.

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN(see below)

At This Table (x2)

At This Table

Marcia McFee and Chuck Bell, 2023

Used with permission.

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for piano in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a tempo marking of quarter note = 80. The melody is played in the right hand, and the accompaniment is in the left hand. The lyrics are: 'At this ta-ble we lift our voi-ces in prayer. At this ta-ble we seek your'. The second staff continues the melody and accompaniment, with lyrics: 'peace. At this ta-ble we know you have drawn near. At this ta-ble we find re-'. The third staff concludes the piece with the lyrics: '- lease.'.

At this ta-ble we lift our voi-ces in prayer. At this ta-ble we seek your

5
peace. At this ta-ble we know you have drawn near. At this ta-ble we find re -

9
- lease.

PRAYERS

P: God of boundless love, you gather us at your table with everything we carry today...We pray in the name of Jesus, who shows us just how wide your love can reach.

C: Amen.

HYMN (see above)

At This Table (x2)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

L: As we look to expand the welcome of God's table, let us join our hearts together to pray as Jesus taught us:

ALL: 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

TIME FOR SHARING¹

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY & DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

O Love That Will Not Love Me Go

by Peace

OFFERTORY RESPONSE (to the tune of Doxology)

ALL: Be present at our table, Lord, be here and everywhere adored; thy creatures bless, and grant that we may feast in fellowship with thee.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

L: Let us pray. Generous God,

C: receive these gifts and multiply the love with which they are given. Use them to feed, welcome, serve, and care, so that those too often left at the edges may know they have a place at your table. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN FWS NO. 2223** (see next page) *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love

Peter Scholtes

Text: © 1991, Lorenz Publishing

Piano $\text{♩} = 80$

The musical score is written for piano on a single staff in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 80. The score consists of five systems of music, each with four-part vocal harmony (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are printed below the vocal parts.

1. We are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the
 2. We will walk with each oth-er, we will walk hand in
 3. We will work with each oth-er, we will work side by
 4. All praise to the Father, from whom all things

5
 Lord, we are one in the Spir-it, we are one in the Lord, and we
 hand, we will walk with each oth-er we will walk hand in hand, and to -
 side, we will work with each oth-er we will work side by side, and we'll
 come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's on - ly Son, and all

10
 pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored: and they'll
 - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:
 guard hu-man dig - ni - ty and save hu-man pride:
 praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

14
 know we are Christians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are

19
 Christians by our love. _____

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.

***BENEDICTION**

L: This Table of Love requires much of us. It insists that we love one another as we love ourselves, and that we love ourselves as we love others. Love asks that we raise one another up by saying, “Yes, you are worthy! You are welcome at this table.” When we surrender to the mysterious ways of love, we may be surprised to find just how much there is to go around.

The grace of God abounds! The invitation of Christ is wide! The power of the transforming Spirit will surprise us every time!

May the blessings of love you find here go with you and move through you to others wherever you go this week. Let the people say,

C: Amen.

POSTLUDE

The Power of Your Love

by Bullock

References

¹Our worship service is adapted from Marcia Mcfee’s *Come to the Table* series © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/table. Used with permission.

Service Participants

Thank you to the worship choir for enhancing the service with their talents this morning.

Welcome Team Members— Byron & Dawn Almoney

Liturgist— Deb Herlocker

Tech Team— Elaine Bevivino, Jack Herlocker, Ron Miles

*Those for whom it is comfortable, please rise.