

Offertory Prayer

Faithful God, our source and sustainer, you call us to believe beyond what we see and serve without seeking reward. Take these gifts as seeds of trust, planted in hope and watered with gratitude. Even when our faith feels small, you multiply our offering into acts of healing, welcome, and justice. So, increase not only our faith, Lord, but also our willingness to serve—with humility, joy, and confidence that you are at work through every generous act. In the name of the one who came to serve, we pray. Amen

Offertory *Let Us Break Bread Together* Dale Wood (1934-2003)

*Doxology UMH 94

HOLY COMMUNION

*Closing Hymn *For the Healing of the Nations* UMH 428

1. For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.

2. Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.

3 All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.

4. You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.

*Benediction Reverend Burke Owens

*Alleluia UMH 78

Postlude *Let the Earth Rejoice* Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Cover image: *Communion of the Apostles* by Fra Angelico, 1440–41

*Please stand where indicated by an asterisk.

Senior Pastor: Burke Owens
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios
Director of Music: Mark Shaull
Organist: Diane Keller
Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

World Communion Sunday

SUNDAY OCTOBER 5 2025
10:45 AM SERVICE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
SUNDAY OCTOBER 5, 2025

Prelude *Elizabethan Serenade* Ronald Binge, arr. Julianne Stafford

Fiume di Musica

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing the Peace

Life of the Community Sumith Kalas

Stewardship Moment Julianne Stafford

*Call to Worship Sumith Kalas

Destruction and violence are everywhere; strife and contention are all around.

The needs of the world are so great;

O Lord, increase our faith.

The law is slack, and justice does not prevail.

The needs of the world are so great;

O Lord, increase our faith.

How many threats surround us; warfare, homelessness, loneliness, loss.

The needs of the world are so great, but you, O God, are greater still –

the One in whom all things are possible. O Lord, increase our faith in you!

*Hymn *I Come With Joy* UMH 617

1. I come with joy to meet my Lord,
 forgiven, loved and free,
 in awe and wonder to recall
 his life laid down for me,
 his life laid down for me.

2. I come with Christians far and near
 to find, as all are fed,
 the new community of love
 in Christ's communion bread,
 in Christ's communion bread.

3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
 each proud division ends.
 The love that made us makes us one,
 and strangers now are friends,
 and strangers now are friends.

4. And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
 His presence, always near,
 is in such friendship better known;
 we see and praise him here,
 we see and praise him here.

5. Together met, together bound,
 we'll go our different ways,
 and as his people in the world,
 we'll live and speak his praise,
 we'll live and speak his praise.

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

*Scripture *Luke 10:25-37* Stephanie Zeller

Anthem *O, Bread of Life* Robert Allan Petker

Nancy Whitecar, Director

Message *Hope, Despair, and the Good Samaritan* Reverend Burke Owens

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Burke Owens

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer

Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Hymn *One Bread, One Body* UMH 620

Reprise:
 One bread, one body,
 one Lord of all,
 one cup of blessing which we bless.
 And we, though many,
 throughout the earth,
 we are one body in this one Lord.

Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
 woman or man, no more. [Reprise]

2. Many the gifts, many the works,
 one in the Lord of all. [Reprise]

3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
 gathered to one, for all. [Reprise]

Invitation to the Offering Sumith Kalas