

Week 4

I've been meaning to ask...
where do we go from here?

Flashlight

I wish I could draw you a map
of the next steps—
the next conversation,
the next brave truth,
the next fumble,
the next apology.
Wouldn't it be nice to know
what's coming?
Wouldn't it be nice to
prepare our hearts?

But I don't know where to go from here.
I am a child with a flashlight—
deeply hopeful and a little nervous,
all at the very same time.

What I *do* know is I don't want to go
anywhere without you.
So I'm hoping that you will
take my hand.
See this truth.
Trust my voice.
Look for the good.
And day by day,
we can go from here,
because we were never meant
to go alone.

And maybe we'll get lost;
but then again,
maybe we'll be found.
So if you're willing,
if you'll just say yes,
I will let you hold the flashlight.
We can find our way,
step by step,
light in hand,
abolishing shadows
together.

Who needs a map
when you have
the light, anyway?

First Presbyterian Church IN VICTOR

**WHOEVER YOU ARE.
HOWEVER YOU HAVE COME.
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.**

I've been
meaning
to ask...

where do we
go from here?

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Pastor Nick Dorland
Organist Ayn Patrowicz



WRITTEN BY: REV. SARAH ARE | SANCTIFIEDART.ORG

Order of Worship **October 3rd, 2021, 10am**
World Communion Sunday

Prelude "Holy, Holy, Holy" arr. by Mark Hayes

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship*

If you come into this place with the hope of growing deeper,
with the hope of connecting, with the hope of glimpsing God,
and if all of those things take place, and your spirit is moved,
and you swear God is near, and you feel more than lucky for
the gift of faith,
and then the service comes to an end,
and it's time for you to leave,
and you ask yourself,
"Where do we go from here?"
Then I would say to you, "Go out into the world to love and to
share and to learn, but come back soon, because this is the
beginning.
This is only the beginning.
So come on in.
Fill your cup here.
Be present here. God is here."
Let us worship Holy God.

**Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Opening Hymn (insert) "Uyai mose/ Come, All you People"

Unison Prayer of Confession*

**Holy God, We are naturals when it comes to stalling
out. We reach a certain point in the relationship, in
the conversation, in our faith, and then we stall. We
buy property on the top of the plateau and build a
house there, destined to never dig deeper or climb
higher.
Forgive us for giving up on the things that matter.
Forgive us for confusing the plateau with the
mountain top.
Forgive us for taking the easy way out instead of doing
the hard work of curiosity, relationship-building,
vulnerability, and connection.
Inspire us to see new paths for where we can go from
here. With hope and honesty we pray, Amen.**

**Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Responsive Assurance of Pardon*

Family of faith, We are works in progress, but we are works in
progress designed, created, and claimed by God. No matter
what you have done or left undone this week, today is a fresh
start. Hear and believe the good news of the gospel:
**God is with me on the mountain top,
and God is with me on the plateau.
I am loved, claimed, and forgiven. Thanks be to God!
Amen.**

**Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Gloria Patri #579

"Glory Be to the Father"

Moment for All Ages

Unison Prayer for Illumination

**O God, so often we are closed off from you, from one
another, and from learning in general. As your people
we ask that you help open us up today. Holy Spirit
speak loudly, forcefully; yet compassionately, and
tenderly to these hearts and minds that you have
claimed. Help us see Jesus in all people, help us see
worth in every race, culture, identity, and age. Come
to us today, O God, and shine your light in all the dark
and hidden places, so that brought to light we may see
where we go from here. In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen.**

Scripture (insert)

Acts 10:1-48

Sermon "I've been meaning to ask...Where do we go from here?"

Affirmation of Faith*

**We believe in relationships.
We believe in asking hard questions, in showing up for
one another, and in sitting together through the pain.
We believe in listening with grace, learning with
curiosity, and apologizing with sincerity.
We believe in asking for help, saying what we need,
and trusting that no degree of vulnerability
could strip us of God's love.
We believe in trying our best and offering grace
when our best is not enough.
And we believe that God is in all relationships—
modeling for us the value of community
through the relationships of the Trinity.
So we love today, and we strive to love even more
tomorrow.
Let it be so. Amen.**

**Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Invitation to the Table*

One of the holiest things about sharing a meal together is the conversation that accompanies it. Think back to the tables of your life—the kitchen table you grew up with as a child, cafeteria tables with friends, date night tables with your beloved, the table in your current home that has hosted meals with family and friends.

At all of these tables, conversation has flowed: “How are you? What do you need? How is work? How is your grief? When can I see you again? What are you learning these days? Tell me everything!” And there may be some tears, and there usually is some laughter. That is the holy thing about tables. They bring us together in conversation.

This Table is no different.

Here at this Table all people are invited—no matter what you have done or left undone.

And here at this Table we wear our hearts on our sleeves.

Here at this table we are free to tell God the truths of our lives—where it hurts, what we need, where we’re from, and where we hope to go. And here at this Table we are not alone. We are surrounded by community, surrounded by connection. So come to this Table—with your courage and your fear, with your curiosity and your doubt, with your hope and your vulnerability. God is here.

There is a seat saved for you.

**Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, strong and faithful God. All your works, the height and the depth, echo the silent music of your praise. In the beginning your Word summoned light, night withdrew, and creation dawned. As ages passed unseen, waters gathered on the face of the earth and life appeared. When the times at last had ripened and the earth grown full in abundance, you created in your image man and woman, the stewards of all creation.

You gave us breath and speech, that all the living might find a voice to sing your praise, and to celebrate the creation you call good. So now, with all the powers of heaven and earth, we speak the ageless hymn of your glory:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest!

Holy God, you made the world to hum in harmony; you listened and you called it good. In time we broke off from singing the song and went our own way, but you called us back and when the time was right you came in flesh and blood to live as one of us.

In Christ, dividing walls are broken down—

no Jew or Greek, male and female, slave or free.

You are there on every spectrum, in every color, at every table.

By your Spirit, make us one. By your Spirit, make us whole. By your Spirit, make this bread and wine your body and blood, that we may know communion with you and with each other. Take our hearts, our lives, our hands; mold us, change us, and send us out, that we may be your body in the world you so love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, even so come Lord Jesus. **Amen.**

Communion Song #513

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Communion

Offering

*Doxology

Unison Prayer of Dedication

God of life, we pray that our unity will be seen not only in what we believe but also in how we work together to be salt and light in this world. May our gifts today be a sign for each other and the world, that we pledge to work together in your name for the healing of this broken and hurting world. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People* and The Lord’s Prayer

God of conversation, we are here, trying to be courageous.

We are here, trying to be curious. We are here, trying to build connections. It is easier said than done. We need you like we need this community, like we need the sunrise every morning. So draw near to us. Teach us how to speak. Teach us how to listen. Teach us how to find you in the spaces between our words and our ears. And as you do, hear and receive these prayers...

God of conversation, we’ve been meaning to ask, “Where do we go from here? How do we speak truth? How do we listen for you?” Guide us. Be with us. Hold us. Unsettle us. Catch us. Feed us. Fill us. Meet us here.

God, we are open. Pour into us...*Lord’s Prayer.*

**Prayer by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org*

Closing Hymn #440

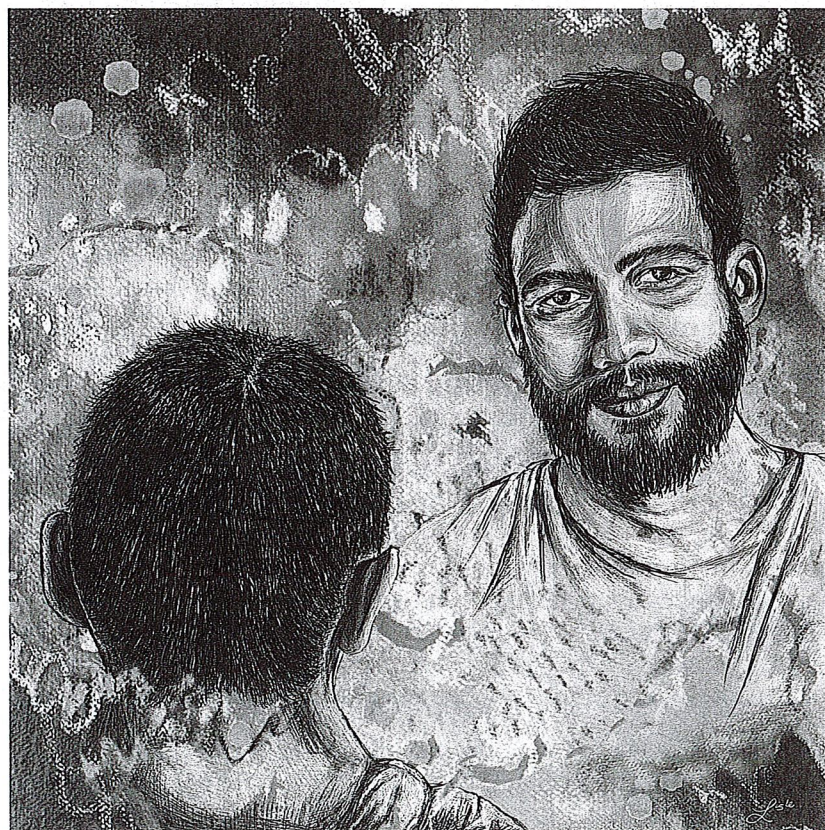
“In Christ There Is No East or West”

Benediction

May the grace of God, deeper than our imagination;
the strength of Christ, stronger than our need;
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, richer than our
togetherness, guide and sustain us today and in all our
tomorrows.

Postlude

“Voluntary in C” by Henry Heron



“Ever Wider” by Lisle Gwynn Garrity |
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Church Calendar

Announcements and monthly calendar can be found in our weekly eNews!

Sunday, October 3

- 10:00 am Worship Service w/communion
- 11:15 am Coffee Hour
- 11:15 am “I’ve been meaning to ask...” study
- 3:30 pm Girl Scouts
- 7:30 pm A.A. & Al Anon

Tuesday, October 5

- 10:00 am Free Panera

Wednesday, October 6

- 1:30-7 pm Red Cross Blood Drive
- 4:00 pm VCI Meeting

Friday, October 8

- 7:00 pm A.A. Meeting

Saturday, October 9

- 5-6:30 pm Community Dinner

Fall Office Hours

Office: Mon-Thurs 9am-1pm
Pastor: Mon-Thurs 9am- 4pm

*Thank you to these members who are
helping with worship today-*

Liturgist: Dean Cornwell

Deacon Greeters: Karen Tripp & Linda Smith

Peter and Cornelius

10 In Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion of the Italian Cohort, as it was called. ² He was a devout man who feared God with all his household; he gave alms generously to the people and prayed constantly to God. ³ One afternoon at about three o'clock he had a vision in which he clearly saw an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius." ⁴ He stared at him in terror and said, "What is it, Lord?" He answered, "Your prayers and your alms have ascended as a memorial before God. ⁵ Now send men to Joppa for a certain Simon who is called Peter; ⁶ he is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the seaside." ⁷ When the angel who spoke to him had left, he called two of his slaves and a devout soldier from the ranks of those who served him, ⁸ and after telling them everything, he sent them to Joppa.

⁹ About noon the next day, as they were on their journey and approaching the city, Peter went up on the roof to pray. ¹⁰ He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. ¹¹ He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. ¹² In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. ¹³ Then he heard a voice saying, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat." ¹⁴ But Peter said, "By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean." ¹⁵ The voice said to him again, a second time, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane." ¹⁶ This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven.

¹⁷ Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon's house and were standing by the gate. ¹⁸ They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. ¹⁹ While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Look, three^[a] men are searching for

you. ²⁰ Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them." ²¹ So Peter went down to the men and said, "I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?" ²² They answered, "Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say." ²³ So Peter^[b] invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers^[c] from Joppa accompanied him. ²⁴ The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. ²⁵ On Peter's arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshiped him. ²⁶ But Peter made him get up, saying, "Stand up; I am only a mortal." ²⁷ And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; ²⁸ and he said to them, "You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. ²⁹ So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?"

³⁰ Cornelius replied, "Four days ago at this very hour, at three o'clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. ³¹ He said, 'Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. ³² Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.' ³³ Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say."

Gentiles Hear the Good News

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and

does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

Gentiles Receive the Holy Spirit

⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶ for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Uyai mose/Come, All You People 496

PSALM 66

Shona 1 U - ya - i mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwawari; u - ya - i

English 1 Come, all you peo-ple, come and praise your Mak-er; come, all you

2 Come, all you peo-ple, come and praise the Sav-ior; come, all you

3 Come, all you peo-ple, come and praise the Spir-it; come, all you

E/B

B7 E

mo - se, ti - na - ma - te Mwawari; u - ya - i mo - se,
 peo - ple, come and praise your Mak - er; come, all you peo - ple,
 peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior; come, all you peo - ple,
 peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it; come, all you peo - ple,

A/E

E

B7

E

ti - na - ma - te Mwawari; u - ya - i mo - se Zwi - no.
 come and praise your Mak - er; come now and wor - ship the Lord.
 come and praise the Sav - ior; come now and wor - ship the Lord.
 come and praise the Spir - it; come now and wor - ship the Lord.

For another setting of Ps. 66 see 495

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In Christ There Is No East or West

MCKEE CM

John Oxenham, 1908; alt.

African-American spiritual
Jubilee Songs, 1884
Adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940

C G C F B \flat F C F Am Dm7 G7 C F C

1. In Christ there is no east or west, In Him no south or north;
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev-ery-where Their high com-mu-nion find;
3. Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, What-e'er your race may be;
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, In Him meet south and north.

CHURCH: UNIVERSAL

Am C Am C G7 C G7 C F C Am C G7 C

But one great fel-low-ship of love Through-out the whole wide earth.
His ser-vice is the gold-en cord Close-bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God Are sure-ly kin to me.
All Christ-ly souls are one in Him Through-out the whole wide earth.

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