



OCTOBER 5, 2025
+ WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY +

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PRELUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G Major
J.S. Bach
Sam Parnin, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jeff Hunter and Libby Piotrowski



* CALL TO WORSHIP 802, with sung response

Psalm 37:1-9

* OPENING HYMN 593

In Christ There Is No East or West

* INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Eternal God, you have called us to be members of one body. Join us with those who in all times and places have praised your name, that with one heart and mind we may show the unity of our church, and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who gave us this prayer to pray:

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, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Old Testament Reading

Alyssa Anderson, Reader
Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

New Testament Reading

2 Timothy 1:1-14

* Gospel Reading

Luke 24:13-35

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR THE CHILDREN

* CONGREGATIONAL SONG

Christ Is Risen
Matt Maher, Mia Fieldes
Led by Rosie Boyd, Eric Hoffman, Jeanette Mottl,
Teg Piotrowski, Alexei Rodriguez, and Erik Ward

MESSAGE

Prajakta David Kelley

CHORAL ANTHEM

Come to the Table of the Lord
Jay Althouse and Sally K. Albrecht

Come to the table where the bread is broken.
Come to the table where the word of God is spoken.
And take this bread into your life as a token.
Come to the table of the Lord.

Come to the table and drink this wine.
Come to the table believing in this sign.
Renew your spirit with this food divine.
Come to the table of the Lord.

Hungry and thirsty, we come, Lord, to Thee.
We humbly bow on bended knee.

Come to the table and dwell in God's light.
Come to the table and kneel before His sight.
Join in communion and know His holy might.
Come to the table of the Lord.
Come to the table of the Lord.
Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving
Sharing the Elements
Communion Music

There Is a Fountain
arr. Cindy Berry

The Old Rugged Cross
Hymnal Selection 235, arr. Jerry Ray

Prayer of Thanksgiving

GIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Invitation to Generosity
Offertory

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Charles C. Converse
Brian Ward, Piano

- * Doxology 48
- * Prayer of Dedication

* CLOSING HYMN 684

We All Are One in Mission

WORDS OF SENDING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Peace of God
John Rutter

The peace of God which passeth all understanding
keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God
and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord.
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be amongst you
and remain with you always. Amen.

POSTLUDE

Grand Chœur
Théodore Salomé

*Please remain seated for the postlude, pausing as the light of Christ is carried out
and imagining how you might carry that light into the world this week.*

** Please rise, in body or in spirit.*

Psalm 37:1-9

RESPONSE



ALL ¹Do not fret because of the wicked;
do not be envious of wrongdoers,
²**for they will soon fade like the grass,
and wither like the green herb.**
³Trust in the LORD, and do good;
so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.
⁴**Take delight in the LORD,**
and he will give you the desires of your heart.

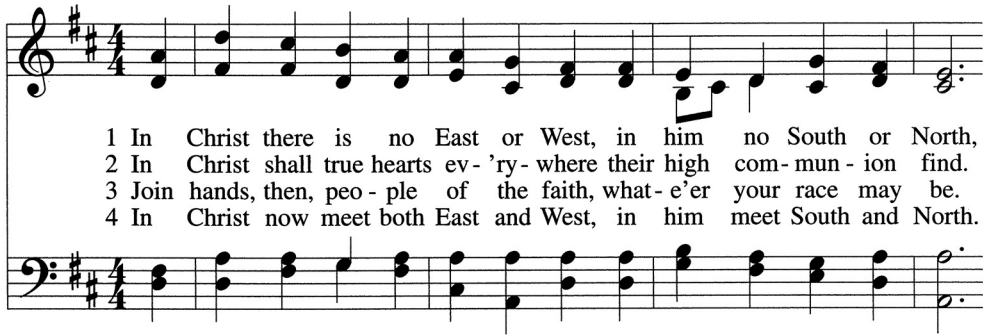
RESPONSE

ALL ⁵Commit your way to the LORD;
trust in him, and he will act.
⁶**He will make your vindication shine like the light,
and the justice of your cause like the noonday.**
⁷Be still before the LORD,
and wait patiently for him;
**do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.**
⁸Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
⁹For the wicked shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.

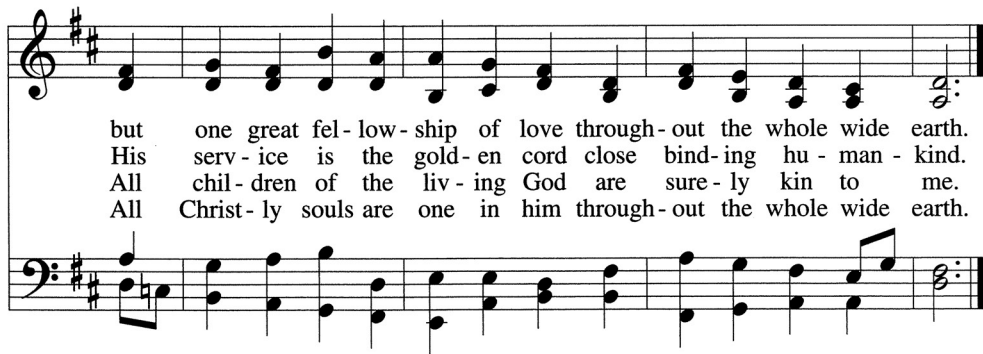
RESPONSE

In Christ There Is No East or West

593



1 In Christ there is no East or West, in him no South or North,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mun-ion find.
3 Join hands, then, peo-ple 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.



but one great fel-low-ship of love through-out the whole wide earth.
His serv-ice 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.

WORDS: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.
MUSIC: Alexander R. Reinagle, 1799-1877

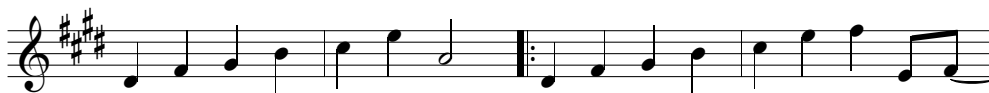
C.M.
ST. PETER

Alternate tune: McKEE, 776

Christ Is Risen

Matt Maher and Mia Fieldes

2009 spiritandsong.com (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Thankyou Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
Be Essential Songs (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)
Upside Down Under (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC)



Let no
Be - neath



one caught in sin re - main in - side the lie of in - ward shame; we fix
the weight of all our sin; You bowed to none but heav - en's will. No scheme



our eyes u - pon the cross and run to Him who showed great love and bled
of hell, no scof - fer's crown. No bur - den great can hold You down. In strength



for us. Free - ly You've bled for us. Christ is
You reign. For - e - ver let Your church pro - claim.



ris - en from the dead, tramp - ling o - ver death by death. Come a - wake, come a - wake. Come and



rise up from the grave. Christ is ris - en from the dead. We are one with Him a - gain. Come a -



wake, come a - wake. Come and rise up from the grave.

27

rise up from the grave. O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your vic-to-ry?

32

O church, come stand in the light. The glo - ry of God has de-feat - ed the night.

36

O death, where is your sting? O hell, where is your vic-to-ry?

40

O church, come stand in the light. Our God is not dead, He's a - live! He's alive! Christ is

44

ris - en from the dead. Tramp - ling o - ver death by death. Come a - wake, come a-wake. Come and

47

rise up from the grave. Christ is ris - en from the dead. We are one with Him a-gain. Come a -

50

wake, come a - wake. Come and rise up from the grave.

A GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You have made from one every nation and people to live on all the face of the earth.

Holy are you, O God, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. He commissioned us to be his witnesses to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending words of praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give you thanks that the Lord Jesus, on the night before he died, took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and give it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, after supper, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

Remembering all your mighty and merciful acts, we take this bread and this cup from the gifts you have given us, and celebrate with joy the redemption won for us in Jesus Christ. Accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving as a living and holy offering of ourselves, that our lives may proclaim the one crucified and risen.

Let us pray: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. All honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

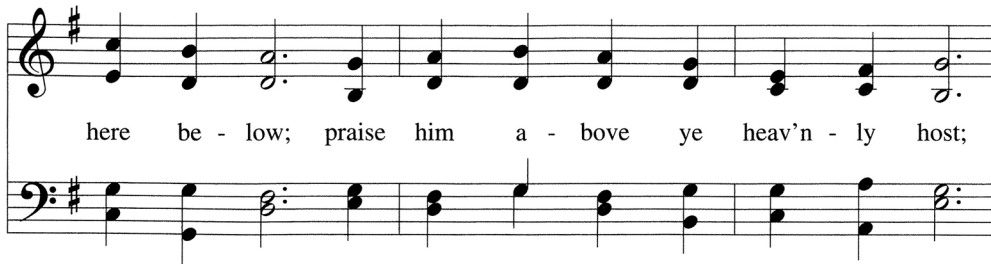
Amen.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 48



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures

The first system of music consists of two staves. The treble staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is composed of eighth and quarter notes. The bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature, featuring a simple harmonic accompaniment of chords and single notes.



here be - low; praise him a - bove ye heav'n - ly host;

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff shows a continuation of the eighth-note melody. The bass staff provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.



praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The third system concludes the piece. The treble staff ends with a double bar line. The bass staff also concludes with a double bar line. The lyrics 'A - men.' are written below the final notes.

We All Are One in Mission

684

1 We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,
 2 We all are called for serv-ice to wit-ness in God's name.
 3 We all be-hold one vi-sion, a stark re-al-i-ty:
 4 Now let us be u-nit-ed and let our song be heard.

our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.
 Our min-is-tries are dif-f'rent, our pur-pose is the same:
 the stew-ard of sal-va-tion was nailed up-on a tree.
 Now let us be a ves-sel for God's re-deem-ing Word.

A sin-gle, great com-mis-sion com-pels us from a-bove
 to touch the lives of oth-ers by God's sur-pris-ing grace,
 Yet res-ur-rect-ed Jus-tice gives rise that we may share
 We all are one in mis-sion, we all are one in call,

to plan and work to-geth-er that all may know Christ's love.
 so peo-ple of all na-tions may feel God's warm em-brace.
 free re-con-cil-i-a-tion and hope a-mid de-spair.
 our var-ied gifts u-nit-ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

Welcome to North Park Covenant Church online!

We're glad you're here.

If you're new here today, we invite you to email the co-pastors at copastors@npcovenant.org to learn more about us and, perhaps, get a little more connected.

Childcare is available in the toddler room (lower level, off the hallway south of the parlors) during the worship service for any wee ones ages 0 through 5 needing a place to wiggle and play. We always happily welcome children in the service but recognize that sometimes parents need a break so they can focus on worship.

For your prayers this week:

- **our neighborhood**, specifically the east side of the 5500 block of N. Spaulding and the south side of the 3200 block of W. Bryn Mawr; *"We pray that God would unveil within our neighbors and ourselves the unlimited riches of his glory and favor until supernatural strength floods their and our innermost beings with his divine might and explosive power."* (Ephesians 3:16)
- **all those affected by two shootings** that occurred last weekend; the first in a Southport, NC, bar on September 27 and the second, which also involved a related fire, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Grand Blanc Township, MI, on September 28. Peace to all who grieve the loss of loved ones.
- **Kathy Gartner**, Katy Hoffman's mother, undergoing surgery on her lung
- **Diane Haglund**, grateful for your prayers as she has struggled with fatigue, which has improved, but now experiencing hip pain
- Pastor Libby's brother, **Matt Johnson**, recuperating after surgery this past Thursday to repair a severed tendon in his ankle
- **Lynn Pearson**, back to Brandel Care Center for continuing care
- **Bonnie Borgeson**, Cheryl Borgeson's sister, undergoing chemo treatments through mid-November
- **Gunnel Brunsell**, on hospice care and declining
- **Sandy Edstrom**, still experiencing sciatic pain
- **Janet Olfelt**, Joel Olfelt's mother, in skilled nursing for further recovery after a fall
- **Zeynab and her two sons**, awaiting word about their asylum case; and for Zeynab's daughter, **Soofia**, who could potentially be released from the detention center if she can find a sponsor

Today we welcome to the pulpit Prajakta David Kelley. Prajakta serves as Donor Engagement and Stewardship Officer for the Evangelical Covenant Church, where she cultivates partnerships with individuals and churches to engage generously in God's global mission. She is passionate about mobilizing the local church for transformational, holistic mission that blesses communities worldwide and strengthens the Church. Originally from India, Prajakta brings experience in community development, anti-sex trafficking, and pastoral ministry. She holds degrees in nursing, divinity, and business administration from North Park University and is an ordained Covenant minister. Praj lives in Chicago with her husband, Jordan, and their son, Rohan.

Today is a Benevolence Sunday. Members of the Deacon Board will be at the doors after the service to receive any donations to our benevolence fund, which is used to help those in need in our community

Vida Plena, a Spanish-speaking Covenant church plant that meets here, invites you to worship every Sunday at 1:30 pm. For more information, contact Pastor Dany Flores at 872-357-9080.

Members and friends are invited to be a part of a Saturday-morning trash brigade, working to clean up the block mentioned in today's neighborhood prayer. Please reach out to Janette and Roderick Smith at rjonberber@sbcglobal.net for more details.

**Lectionary texts for
Sunday, October 12:**

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalm 111

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

Community Focus Group Opportunity: [The Kedzie Center](#) is looking for community members (from Albany Park, Irving Park, North Park, and Sauganash) who are willing to share their perspectives so they can make their own work even more community-responsive and informed. There are two ways to help them:

- 1) [Take the survey](#) (5-10 minutes to complete and responses can be anonymous). All survey participants will be entered into a raffle for a \$50 gift card to one of six local businesses!
- 2) [Join a focus group](#). The Kedzie Center will host a second focus group tomorrow, October 6, from 6-7 pm. All focus group participants will receive a \$25 gift card to the Aldi on Montrose. Their goals through these actions are to capture a snapshot of community needs and to go deeper on the themes that emerge through the survey.

Welcoming the Stranger - Together! This fall, all over our denomination, discussions are taking place over the book *Welcoming the Stranger: Justice, Compassion and Truth in the Immigration Debate*, by Matthew Soerens and Jenny Yang. North Park Church's participation will be in the form of conversation and prayer on two Sunday evenings at the home of Nancy and Wally Ebner (5618 N. Drake Ave.) on October 5 and 12 from 6:30-8 pm. We'll discuss the themes of the book (U.S. history; legal, human, political, and biblical issues; and responses) which is quite long, so feel free to join us whether or not you've read it! There's a copy in the church library. You are welcome! Contact Nancy at 413-896-8874.

We invite you to join us at FMSC! It's become something of a tradition around here to spend one night each fall making our way to Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in Libertyville to pack food for people in underserved countries. This year, we've reserved a time slot on Wednesday, October 15, starting at 7:15 pm. There will be no Gather that evening, and no youth group or music rehearsals. Instead, we invite any and all who are willing and able to join us at 6 pm for dinner at Culver's (803 E. Park Ave., Libertyville), followed by the packing session at FMSC (742 E. Park Ave., Libertyville). To sign up, [please click here](#).

Join us for a Blood Drive! On Saturday, October 25, we will hold a blood drive from 10 am to 2 pm in the parlors, through Versiti Blood Centers. Come do your part to increase the supply of blood for those in need. Did you know? More than 75% of Americans reaching age 72 will need donated blood within their lifetime. Never donated before? [This helpful video](#) will tell you what you can expect. To sign up, [please click here](#).

Will you bike (or run or walk) for Congo? Did you know that some people in DR Congo travel over 50 kilometers (31 miles) on a bicycle to a hospital, while sick or injured? And what's even harder to believe is that, when they arrive at the hospital, limited medicines, clean water, and medical training often prevent a person from getting better. Paul Carlson Partnership invites you to join the 2025 Biking for Congo Challenge as a fun way to bike (or run, walk, swim) to support healthcare in DR Congo. For more information or to register to participate, [use this link](#). To support those who are participating, you can click on their respective fundraising pages:

- [Joline Paska](#)

- [Sue Vandervoort](#)

A Special Invitation: Kim and Joel Delp, missionaries in Ecuador, invite you to the First Annual Celebration Event, Fiesta del Ecuador, celebrating God's faithfulness through Ecuadorian culture, food, and fellowship. The event will take place on Saturday, November 8, at Trinity Christian School (901 Shorewood Dr., Shorewood, IL). Doors open at 4:30 pm, and dinner will be at 6 pm, followed by a program and festivities. The cost is \$40/adult or \$20/child age 12 and under. To register, please [click here](#) and fill out the RSVP form at the bottom of the page by October 15. All are welcome to attend!

New Members Class Planned for November 15 Have you been wondering about membership at North Park Covenant Church and what it might mean? Do you have questions about the church and/or the Covenant denomination? Would you like to learn more without an obligation to join the church? We'd love to have you join us at our next New Members Class, which will be offered on Saturday, November 15, from 9 am to 1 pm. Breakfast and lunch will be included! Please let Pastor Libby or Pastor Jeff know of your interest, and we'll add your name to the list and be in touch!

Diapers Needed for Refugee Families: The Board of Community Concern has learned from Exodus World Service that they are in need of diapers for the refugee families they serve, specifically sizes 6 and 7. If you can contribute, the diapers can be placed in the narthex by the school supply collection bin.

Are you looking for a way to serve at NPCC? We always welcome people who are willing to hang out with the littlest in our community or help serve refreshments after the worship service! [Click here to put your name down for a Sunday or two](#). *Please note: this is a new link.*

Bulletin cover art: Fichter, David. Potluck Mural, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56967> [retrieved June 9, 2025]. Original source: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/zenmama/5429643508> - L. Sabato.

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The Church Calendar This Week

The calendar is available at www.npcovenant.org/calendar and is updated as changes occur.

Monday, October 6

9:15 am	Women's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
10:30 am	Staff Meeting (Staff Conference Room)
11:30 am	NPCCP Board Meeting (Parlors)
3:45 pm	Von Steuben Boys' Basketball Practice (Gym)
4 pm	Tutoring (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Geezerball (Gym)
7:30 pm	Centering Prayer (Staff Conference Room)

Tuesday, October 7

8 am	Men's Bible Study (Hybrid/Large Conference Room)
4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
6 pm	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Wednesday, October 8

10 am	Wednesday Women's Bible Study (Edstrom Home)
3:45 pm	Von Steuben Boys' Basketball Practice (Gym)
6 pm	Gather Dinner (Parlors)
6:30 pm	Chancel Handbell Choir Rehearsal (Side Balcony, Sanctuary)
	Contemporary Music Rehearsal (Choir Room)
7 pm	Knit or Not (Coffee Lounge)
	Middle-school Youth Group (Youth Room near the Gym)
7:15 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, October 9

4:30 pm	Uniting Voices Chicago Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
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Friday, October 10

1 pm	Prayer Group Gathering (Edstrom Home)
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Saturday, October 11

8 am	Geezerball (Gym)
10:15 am	Cudahy Basketball (Gym)

Sunday, October 12

9 am	Confirmation (Staff Conference Room)
9:15 am	Adult Formation (Parlors)
	Bible Journaling (Art Room)
	Sunday School for Preschool - 6th Grade (Junior Chapel)
10:30 am	Worship (Sanctuary)
12 pm	Youth Choir Rehearsal (Junior Chapel)
1:30 pm	Vida Plena Covenant Church Worship Service (Parlors)
7 pm	AA Meeting (Parlors)
	High-school Youth Group (Attic Youth Room)

North Park Covenant Church Staff

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The Friendship Center

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Missionaries We Support

Letha Kerl,
Regional Co-coordinator for Europe

Peter and Anna Kim, Taiwan

James and Rachel Ventress, Alaska

Paul and Sheryl Noren, Congo

Eugenio and Pia Restrepo,
Regional Coordinators for Latin America

Welcome Statement

We welcome all people to begin or deepen their relationship with Christ through worship and study. We invite all believers to fully participate in the life and ministry of our church as members, leaders, and lay staff. We celebrate the gifts and presence of diverse Christians among us—whether those differences be race, ethnicity, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or socioeconomic status. We are blessed by our diversity and are unified in Christ.

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