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**One Great Hour of Sharing**

What if these were the days when Jesus was living with us? What if this were the moment God chose to connect?

Where would we find Jesus? Here, in our congregation? Look around. Or in our neighborhoods?

Perhaps Jesus would be among people classified as “essential,” who might struggle to feed their own families, while ensuring food makes it to others’ tables.

Perhaps Jesus would be working in a neighborhood, mostly ignored by governments and industry, except when there are resources to be exploited or removed.

Perhaps Jesus lives in any of the places, so impoverished in a world of plenty, that help and hope seem like illusions.

Or perhaps locked away, drowned out or disregarded so far from us that we never even know our Savior’s name.

What if this is the time? What if this is the place?

Our faith proclaims that God connects in each of those places, and in each person bearing God’s image. Our faith proclaims that God is among us, and that Jesus can be found among those most precious to God, those neighbors experiencing hunger, oppression or lack, even now, even among us.

One Great Hour of Sharing connects us with people coming together to respond to the needs in their neighborhoods. It is the largest way Presbyterians connect with one another and unite with congregations in every corner of the Church and with partners all over the world. We connect in order to grow, together, while offering support that addresses shared needs in a particular context.

With God and with one another, we connect the story of Jesus who lived, healed and preached among those who had least during his earthly ministry, through ministries that seek healing and wholeness in our world today. One Great Hour of Sharing connects us to proclaim that Christ is here! God is with us! Jesus is among those who have least, those who hunger and thirst, those who are sick or alone; with those seeking justice and righteousness with their neighbors and all who are in need.

Christ is here, and not here, alone. When we all do a little, it adds up to a lot.

***Let us pray:***

*Connect us with our need. Connect us with our offerings. Connect us through the gift of your love, and your love for all you have created.* **Amen*.***