

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

July 12, 2020

6th Sunday after Pentecost



Preparation

Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the grain and dies, it remains a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. –John 12:24

Prelude

Arioso

James H. Rogers
Setting: Emma Lou Diemer

Greeting

Minute for Mission

Ellen Hoekstra
Communities in Schools

Call to Worship:

One: Breath of God,
breath of life,
breath of deepest yearning,
Come, Holy Spirit.

All: **Comforter,
Disturber,
Interpreter,
Enthusier,
Come, Holy Spirit.**

One: Heavenly Friend,
Lamplighter;
Reveler of truth,
Midwife of change,
Come, Holy Spirit.

All: **The Lord is here
God's Spirit is with us.**

Prayer of Confession:

One: We gather in Christ's name.

All: **We claim the promises of Christ: grace, and peace, and mercy, and abundant life with God.**

One: So let us confess our sin before Almighty God, and then start this day as people who are forgiven and freed to serve God and neighbor. Let us pray together:

All: **Oh Holy One, when we stand in the threshold of change too often our fears and complaints overwhelm. In the midst of uncertainty, may we trust that you will continue to guide. Cleanse us of false perceptions and wean us from feeding on what no longer nurtures. Once more, we open our minds and hearts, trusting that you are present within and among us.**

(Silent prayers of confession)

One: With courage and confidence, we continue our journey with you. Amen

Promise of the Gospel

Hymn #65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

[CWM Rhonda]

Children's Lesson

Sophia Juarez and Tasneem Qurashi

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 7:13-14

Sermon

Standing on the Threshold
Rev. Alice Fleming Townley

Special Music

Adoration
Ben Baldwin and Adam Epler

Florence Price
Arr. Elaine Fine

The Offering

Prayers of the People

Refrain: One: I open the door to my heart

All: I open the door

The Lord's Prayer

"...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

Hymn #250

In the Bulb There is a Flower

[Promise]

Benediction

Postlude

God of Grace

[CWM Rhonda]
Setting by Paul Manz

Liturgist: Kent Workman

Florence Price (1887-1953), composer of today's special music was the first African American woman to be performed by a major orchestra. Raised in Little Rock, Arkansas, she relocated to Chicago with her family after a public lynching occurred. In 1933, her prize-winning First Symphony was premiered by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. She wrote hundreds of compositions, her style a blend of her classical European training and the African American spiritual tradition.



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Rev. Alice Fleming Townley, Bridge Pastor

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Connor Koppin, Choir Director

Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director

Sue Schnackenberg, CE Director for

Youth & Children

Edward Ennen, Sexton