

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

August 16, 2020

11th Sunday after Pentecost



Preparation

“Blessed is the [one] . . . who is like a tree planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in season”
Psalm 1

Prelude

Children of the Heavenly Father

[Swedish Folk Hymn]
Arr. Robert A Hobby

Music Introit

Children of the Heavenly Father
vocalist: Connor Koppin

Greeting and Announcements of the Church

Call to Worship:

Tasneem Qurashi

One: Joy is loose,

All: **In the wiggles of the children,**

One: The whispers of the youth,

All: **The smiles of the adults.**

One: We praise God for this glorious day,

All: **Let the praise break forth
in the most unlikely places and in silly ways.**

One: Joy and praise fills our hearts and is expressed in our songs.

All: **Let the laughter be deep, for we are God's people.**

Prayer of Confession:

Becca Boldrey

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: **O Lord, save us from closed and hard hearts, where your word cannot take root.**

O Lord, save us from shallow, unthinking minds, where your word withers away.

**O Lord, save us from an unwillingness to share,
where your word is choked by thinking only of ourselves.**

**But Lord, grant that our hearts may be fertile soil,
where your word flourishes and yields a harvest,
bringing salvation to ourselves and those about us. Amen.**

(Silent prayers of confession)

Promise of the Gospel

Hymn #20

All Things Bright and Beautiful, vs. 1-4

[Royal Oak]

Children's Lesson

Pastor Peggy

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 13: 1-9

Sermon

Sleeping With A Dead Bird
Rev. Peggy Huston

Special Music

Jesus Loves Me
clarinet: Ben Baldwin

Arr: Ben Baldwin

The Offering

Prayers of the People

Refrain: One: Lord in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Alex & Sophia Juarez
Tasneem & Omar Qurashi
Lucas Meland

Hymn #487

These Treasured Children, vs. 1-4

[Pure Nobis Nascitur]

Benediction

Postlude

A Trumpeting

Dale Wood

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864
(517) 349-9536
Website: <https://okemospres.org>
Email: office@okemospres.org
<https://twitter.com/okemospres>
<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>

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Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston, Interim Minister
Rev. Alice Fleming Townley, Assistant Pastor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Connor Koppin, Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Sue Schnackenberg, CE Director for Youth & Children
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager
Adam Zipple, Video Consultant