

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**Sept 12, 2021**  
**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost**



If you are attending the service in-person,

- Please seat yourself in every other row social distancing from your fellow parishioners.
- Children under 12 must remain with parents or guardians with masks on.
- If you are using the hearing loop system, please alert staff at the audio/visual table in the back of the sanctuary if levels need adjusting.

**Preparation** “In the middle of our faith is death and resurrection. Nothing could have been more hopeless than Good Friday—but then Easter happened, and forever we have to become prisoners of hope.” Rev. Desmond Tutu.

**Prelude**

*Voluntary in G*  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Henry Heron

**Greetings and Announcements of the Church**

Kent Workman, Liturgist

**Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 95)**

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

One: Come, let us sing out loud to the Lord!

**All: Let us raise a joyful shout to the rock of our salvation.**

One: Let us come before the Lord with thanks. Let us shout songs of joy!

**All: Come, let us worship and bow down!**

One: The Lord is our God, and we are the people of the Lord's pasture.

**All: We are the sheep in the Lord's hands. Let us worship the Lord!**

**Prayer of Confession**

Emily Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

One: God has promised to make of us a new creation, laying to rest the former things, making all things new. Trusting in God's grace, let us come before God and each other to confess our sin.

**All: Gracious God, in Jesus Christ you came from heaven to dwell among us, calling us to be your faithful people. Yet we can find it a struggle to listen, overwhelmed by the demands of our lives. You stretch out your hand to us and we can fail to take it, lacking trust in letting go of what we think gives us security. We have put up walls between ourselves and you, closing our hearts to your gifts. We have put up walls between ourselves and our neighbors, giving in to fear, ignorance, and arrogance.**

**Forgive our inability to recognize you and live out the reality of your gospel. Forgive us so that we may stand among your saints, rejoicing in your saving grace. Renew and refresh us to be your servant people through Jesus Christ our redeemer. (silent prayers of confession)**

**Promise of the Gospel**

Sarah Mayhew, Liturgist

One: Neither death nor life, powers nor rulers, things present nor future, nor anything else in all creation can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

All: **This is the Good News we believe: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia. Amen.**

**Hymn #374**

*O Holy City, Seen of John*, vs. 1-4

[Morning Song]

Colleen Chester, vocalist

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

**First Scripture Reading**

Revelation 21:1-6

Frank Hatfield, Liturgist

**Second Scripture Reading**

Isaiah 58: 9-12

**Sermon**

“Repairers of the Breach”

Rev. Lisa Schrott

**Affirmation of Faith**

*(Lisa to lead after sermon)*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen**

*The Apostle's Creed*

**Special Music**

*At the River*

Aaron Copeland

Colleen Chester, vocalist

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

**Offering**

Rev. Lisa Schrott

**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Lisa Schrott

The Lord's Prayer“...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors...”

**Hymn #377**

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*, vs. 1-3

[Houston]

Colleen Chester, vocalist

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

**Benediction**

Rev. Lisa Schrott

**Postlude**

*Finale from Concerto No. 5*  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

G.F. Handel

Ushers: *Tom & Jane Bobay, Katie Norton and Scott Locke*

Flowers: *Tom & Jane Bobay: "Thank you to the PNC for all they did in fulfilling their call to nominate a new pastor for our congregation."*

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*Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston, Interim Minister*

*Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist*

*Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director*

*Colleen Chester, Choir Director*

*Edward Ennen, Sexton*

*Anna Thiel, Office Manager*

*Yusuf Sultani, Technology Coordinator*