

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
20th Sunday after Pentecost
October 10, 2021



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: Where Jesus is today and what he does wherever he is are not topics often fleshed out in sermons. Yet, we have to have confidence that he is accessible to us wherever we are and is he guiding our contribution to expand his Kingdom in this world. He continually works on our behalf, so we become full partners in that task by developing our faith and mission beyond our comfort zone, as he remains our mentor and friend.

Prelude

Adagio in A Minor

J.S. Bach

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Greetings and Announcements of the Church

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

Invocation

Ewen Todd/Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

One: Clap your hands, all you peoples!

All. God has gone up with a shout of joy.

One. The Lord Jesus Christ has risen to reign; his is the name above all names.

All. We are witnesses: the Lord is risen! Amen.

Prayer of Approach

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

Loving God, present and near.

You are beyond our words and our understanding.

Help us to remember that You are at once
infinite, boundless, timeless and eternal
but, at the same time intimately entwined with our lives.
You are with us no matter where we find ourselves.

Prayer of Confession

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

One. Lord God of all Creation we come to you from our storm-tossed lives, especially in times of pandemic, political turmoil, and our uncertainty of the future, to seek your peace; we come to you with our questions and uncertainties, our worries and anxieties, but we also come to you with our joys and our satisfied moments, showing our mixed emotions in our life's changing patterns.

All. More than all of that we come to you because of what you have done for us in the love of Christ who bought our freedom by his sacrifice on the Cross and showed us new life in his resurrection life. We bless you for the love which has no length, breadth or height, coming as it does from the perfection your being. But sadly, we come to you that sometimes we knowingly or deliberate reject that costly grace.

One. We have not relied on your word or wisdom, we have not shown any concern or compassion when we should have; we have not loved our neighbor as we love ourselves. We have remained silent when we should have spoken and spoken when we should have been silent.

Silent prayers

One. We seize the moment to ask you from our discordant lives for yet another chance of hearing you say to us '*Your sins are forgiven*'. May the mark of that forgiveness be your grace in us as we respond with grace and gratitude to your love.

All. Eternal God as we ask that you accept our prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray that from the grace we have received, what we say and what we do will enable those around us to glimpse that spark of love as lived through the Spirit you have put in us. **Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Ewen Todd/Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

You are loved.

When you love God, you love others.

Give yourself to God by serving others.

Know that in God's love there is forgiveness, healing, and reconciliation. Love is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Amen.

Hymn # 260

Allelulia! Sing to Jesus, vs. 1 – 4

[Hyfrydol]

PCO Chancel Choir

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Children's Sermon "Where is Jesus?"

Ewen Todd

Prayer of Illumination

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, our ears may be opened to the challenges and comforts we may hear what you say to us today. **Amen.**

First Scripture Reading

Hebrews 4:12-16

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

Second Scripture Reading (all stand) The Gospel: John 14: 1-7, 11-14.

Ewen Todd

Sermon

"Where is Jesus?"

Ewen Todd

Affirmation of Faith

Sophia Juarez, Liturgist (all stand)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of the saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The Apostle's Creed (1975)

Minute for Mission

CROP Walk Update

Ewen Todd/Diane Allen

Commissioning of the CROP Walkers and Donors

Special Music

Ave Verum Corpus

PCO Chancel Choir

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organ

Latin

Ave, verum corpus natum de Maria Virgine :
Vere passum, immolatum in cruce pro homine:
Cuius latus perforatum
Fluxit aqua et sanguine:
Esto nobis praegustatum
In mortis examine

English

Hail the true body, born of Virgin Mary:
You who truly suffered and were sacrificed
On the cross for the sake of man.
From whose pierced flank
Flowed water and blood
Be a foretaste for us in the trial of death

Offering Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

Offertory Music *Abide With Me*
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Prayers of the People Sophia Juarez, Liturgist

All. The Lord's Prayer

Hymn #725 *Oh Jesus, I Have Promised*, vs. 1 – 4
PCO Chancel Choir
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Closing Litany (Philippians 2:5-10) Sophia Juarez, Liturgist/Ewen Todd

Equal with God: **Jesus is Son and Lord**
Made Himself of no reputation: **Jesus gave up his divine privileges**
Came to be a servant: **Jesus came to serve**
Coming in human likeness: **Jesus chose to be one of us**
Humbled himself: **Jesus obeyed his Father**
Went to his death: **Jesus died for us**
Death on a cross: **Jesus is Savior**
God raised him up: **Jesus is at the right hand of God**
God gave him the name above all other names: **King of Kings, Lord of Lords**
Higher than all: **Jesus is Lord**
Let every knee bow: **Jesus is Lord**
Let every tongue confess: **Jesus is Lord, Alleluia**

Benediction Ewen Todd

Postlude *Prelude and Fugue in C Major* J.S. Bach
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Ushers: *Gary & Trudy Sturk, Jeff & Michelle Arbour*

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