

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**January 30, 2022**  
**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**



**COVID-19 Safety Recommendations**

- *Wear a mask at all times while in the sanctuary, fellowship hall, or classrooms.*
- *Seat yourself while being aware to keep 6 feet of distance from the neighbors in your pew.*
- *While seating is now allowed in every row, please stagger your seats so that you are not sitting directly behind or directly in front of anyone in the pews around you.*
- *Remember that young children are not vaccinated.*

**Preparation:** “When you get to the end of all the light you know and it's time to step into the darkness of the unknown, faith is knowing that one of two things shall happen: either you will be given something solid to stand on, or you will be taught how to fly.” - Edward Teller

**Prelude**                      Variations on *If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee*                      *Georg Boehm*  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

**Greetings and Announcements of the Church**                      Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Call to Worship**                      Richard Norton, Liturgist

One: Praise the Lord who is our provider.

**All: The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

One: God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.

**All: The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

One: Glorious are the deeds of our God, and mighty are God's acts.

**All: The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

**Prayer of Confession**                      Richard Norton, Liturgist

One: Amid the countless things that human beings cannot fully comprehend about God, there stands this: God so loves us as to bathe us with grace and feed us with mercy and forgive us our sins. Confident in the love of God, let us pray together.

**All: Holy God, you are the Lord our God, the one who promises deliverance for all that entangles and ensnares us. And yet our trust is fragile, easily broken by the slightest pause—an answer to prayer not instantly given, a request for peace not immediately felt. Our trust is fragile, easily displaced by gods of our own making—the god of self-sufficiency, chased at any cost, the god of illusion, pursued in any form.**

*(Silent prayers)*

**All: Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you. Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the fount of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen**

**Promise of the Gospel**

Richard Norton, Liturgist

One: Friends, hear the good news of the gospel: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ. And Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us.

**All: Let us believe the good news of the gospel: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Alleluia. Amen.**

**Act of Praise #581**

*Gloria Patri*

**Hymn #816**

*If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee, vs. 1-3*

[Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott]

**Children's Sermon**

Andrea Kaitany, Simbolei Academy

**Prayer of Illumination**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Holy God, creator of the universe, you are the author of faith itself. Infuse us with trust in your word so that we may be assured of your deliverance from all that binds us. Fill us with your Spirit that we too might know the true healing that comes from your steadfast word, through Christ Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

**Scripture Reading**

Exodus 6:1-13

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Sermon**

*Living Stories: Assurance*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Anthem**

*Why Should I Feel Discouraged?*

Katie Sundeen, soloist

Charles H. Gabriel

**Minute for Mission**

APNC Update

Kelly Locke

**Offering**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*Elevation*

Dom Paul Benoit

**Doxology #606**

**Prayer of Dedication**

## Prayers of the People

Richard Norton, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy

**All: Hear our prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer** "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

## Hymn #839

*Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!*, vs. 1-3

## Benediction

Pastor Lisa Schrott

## Postlude

Improvisation on *We Shall Overcome*  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

arr: Carl Haywood

**Ushers:** Jayne Zuhlke, Sue Cobbett

The Call to Worship and the Prayer of Confession are adapted from *Feasting on the Word. Worship Companion Year A*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.

**Adult Education Following Worship:** *Andrea Kaitany of Simbolei Academy in Kenya to speak in Fellowship Hall.*

**Next Week:** *Annual Meeting following worship takes the place of Adult Education.*

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Rev. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist  
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director  
Colleen Chester, Choir Director  
Edward Ennen, Sexton  
Anna Thiel, Office Manager  
Yusuf Sultani, Technology Coordinator