

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos  
May 22, 2022  
Sixth Sunday of Easter  
Youth Sunday



**COVID-19 Safety Recommendations**

- *Wear a mask while singing in the sanctuary, and when interacting with young children.*
- *Remember that young children are not vaccinated.*

**Prelude**

*Sonatina*  
Lucas Meland, pianist

Muzio Clementi

**Greetings and Announcements of the Church**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Call to Worship**

Andrew Mayhew

One: We are summoned by Diversity.

**All: We all come from different backgrounds.**

One: We are here together to listen to God's Word.

**All: We live together and are bound by God's Love.**

One: The Lord calls us to worship in Unity

**All: In our worship, let us become One.**

\* **Hymn #401**

*Here in this Place*, vs. 1-4  
[Gather Us In]

**Call to Confession**

Lucas Meland

As we approach this time of confession, let us remember that Jesus went to the cross to pay for our sins. There are many sins we commit collectively that seek to pull us apart from one another. So we begin our time of confession naming those things that seek to break apart the body of Christ:

We sin by dividing ourselves into groups: the haves and the have-nots, the best and the worst, winners and losers, the popular and shunned. Forgive us for division.

We sin by excluding those who are different from us: by how they look, what they wear, how they behave, how they talk, and where they are from. Forgive us for exclusiveness.

We sin by isolating ourselves from the outside world. We ignore injustice. We pretend tragedies do not exist so we do not have to feel obligated to help. Forgive us for isolation.

We sin by putting up walls. We keep out the things that make us uncomfortable even if it's at the expense of others. We block out the things we don't understand without seeking to hear a different perspective from our own. Forgive us for putting up walls.

We sin through hate. We choose not to love our neighbors. We see the worst in others.

We stereotype. We mock. We insult. We generalize. We do not give the benefit of the doubt. We hurt others. Forgive us for our hate.

### **Prayer of Confession**

Alex Juarez

One: As we reflect on the sins of the world, let us all confess our sins before God as we pray:

**All: Holy God, so often we forget to live through you. We get distracted and our focus shifts from you to material things and wants. We get so caught up in ourselves that we fail to come together as one. We stray from our faith, getting far off track of your vision for us. Forgive us Lord for putting you off. Help us to remember it takes many parts to make up one whole. Guide us to work as one people, not self-concerned individuals. Lead us all in a direction of togetherness, so we may live faithfully as one. Through Christ we pray. Amen.**

### **Declaration of Forgiveness**

Lucas Meland

The good news of the gospel is that everything we have done wrong is forgiven by the grace of God in Jesus Christ.

Through God's grace any divisions can stop and togetherness can happen.

Through God's acceptance of us, God can show us that being inclusive of all God's people—even though we differ—is the way.

Through God's friendship, we are never are alone. And we are called to build community with one another.

Because Christ died for all, walls can be brought down and turned into bridges.

Through the cross, Christ shows us how to turn hate into love.

Believe the Good News—in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

### **Promise of the Gospel**

Andrew Mayhew

One: Friends, even when we cannot find our words, when we are scared, when we miss the moment, when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing, we belong to one another and we belong to God. There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that, so rest in the good news that you are a beloved child of God.

**All: We are loved. We are forgiven. We are worthy of grace. We are claimed. We are beloved children of God. Amen.**

\* **Act of Praise #581**

*Gloria Patri*

**Children's Sermon**

*Who is My Neighbor?*

Sophia Juarez

Amy-Jill Levine and Sandy Eisenberg Sasso

\* **Hymn #769**

*For Everyone Born*, vs. 1-5

[For Everyone Born]

### **Prayer of Illumination**

Connor Haskel

Let us Pray: Holy God open our hearts and minds to hear your Good News. Through your Word unite us as your church so that we can more faithfully do the work of Christ our Lord. Through him we pray. Amen.

**Scripture Reading**                      Romans 12:3-9 (from The Message)                      Spencer Locke

**Scripture Reading**                      Matthew 22:37-40 (from The Message)                      Lizzie Conroy-Krutz

**Sermon**    Owen Locke  
Jacob Stokes

**Anthem**    *Lord of the Dance*    Sydney Carter  
Youth Instrumental Ensemble                      arr: Sarah Mayhew  
Lizzie Conroy-Krutz, violin  
Connor Haskel, cello  
Owen Locke, trumpet  
Spencer Locke, tuba  
Andrew Mayhew, euphonium  
Maddie Pearson, trumpet

**Offering**    Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*Adagio from Sonata I*

Mendelssohn

\*Doxology #606

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Prayers of the People**    Lizzie Conroy-Krutz, Connor Haskel, Alex Juarez,  
Sophia Juarez, Owen Locke, Andrew Mayhew,  
Lucas Meland and Jacob Stokes

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

\* Hymn #767

*Together We Serve*, vs. 1-4

[San Anselmo]

**Benediction**    Owen Locke and Jacob Stokes

**Postlude**    *Processional in D major*    David N. Johnson  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

\* *Please rise in body or spirit*

**Ushers:**                      *Chandra and John Juarez; Roy and Christine Meland*

**Flowers:** *The flowers beautifying the sanctuary today are given by Roy and Christine Meland in honor of the youth of PCO.*

**Celebration:** *All are invited to a reception celebrating our youth following the service. There will be cake, games and an opportunity to greet the youth. There will be no Children's or Youth Sunday School and no Adult Education this week.*

**Adult Ed:** *Sermon talk back on Christ's resurrection and ascension.*

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Rev. Dr. 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