

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**July 24, 2022**  
**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost**



**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.*

**Preparation:** Asking people for money is giving them the opportunity to put their resources at the disposal of the kingdom. To raise funds is to offer people the chance to invest what they have in the work of God. Whether they have much or little is not as important as the possibility of making their money available to God. ... God's love can multiply the effects of our generosity. God's kingdom is the place of abundance where every generous act overflows its original bounds and becomes part of the unbounded grace of God at work in the world. -- Henri Nouwen. Catholic priest, professor, writer and theologian.

**Prelude** Prelude on *Slane* Dale Wood  
[Irish Folk Tune]  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

**Invitation to our Shared Ministry** Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Call to Worship** (from Genesis 1:29-31) Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: God said, "See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth

**All: and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.**

One: And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the air

**All: and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life,**

One: I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.

**All: God saw everything that was made, and indeed, it was very good.**

\* **Hymn #712** *As Those of Old Their First Fruits Brought*, vs. 1-3  
[Forest Green]

**Prayer of Confession** Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: Let us confess our sins, for the Holy One delights in blessing those who seek to walk with God.

**All: Holy God, you hold nothing back from us, and a part of us wants to live holding nothing back from you. Yet we often cling to what we have accumulated. We can ignore the needs of others, of those who have little or nothing, of those for whom life has been a constant struggle. Forgive us for valuing too highly things that have no**

**ultimate value. Help us to use what we have, both of substance and spirit, for healing and hope. Enable us to live as generous people and to care for this world. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Promise of the Gospel**

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: Our sins are forgiven by the faith of Christ, who chose love over hatred and forgiveness over blame. Rejoice and be glad, for God's mercy is great; Jesus brings healing, justice, and peace.

**All: Let us live as people sure of this grace. Let us live as people restored to abundant life. Amen.**

\* Act of Praise #581

*Gloria Patri*

**Children's Sermon**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Prayer of Illumination**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

God, illumine our minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed our eyes may see your kingdom, our ears may hear the call of Jesus, and our hearts may know the joy of your salvation. Amen.

**Scripture Reading**

Leviticus 23: 9-13, Luke 13:20-21

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Sermon**

*The Sacred in the Ordinary: Grain and Yeast*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Offering**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*The King of Love My Shepherd Is*  
Based on the Irish tune *St. Columba*

Dale Wood

\*Doxology #606

\*Prayer of Dedication

**Prayers of the People**

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

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

\* Hymn #716

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*, vs. 1-3

[Beach Spring]

**Sending (Benediction)**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Postlude**

*Postlude*

Harald Rohlig

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

*\* Please rise in body or spirit*

**Adult Ed:** *No Adult Ed scheduled this week. Enjoy a time of fellowship after the service.*

**Next Week's Scripture:** Luke 16:1-13

The Promise of the Gospel and the Prayer of Illumination are adapted from *Feasting on the Word. Worship Companion Year A*. Westminster John Knox Press, 2013.

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Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director  
Colleen Chester, Choir Director  
Edward Ennen, Sexton  
Anna Thiel, Office Manager