

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
September 11, 2022
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



COVID-19 Safety Recommendations

- *Masking is now optional during the service (including while singing)*
- *Remember that young children may not have been vaccinated.*

Preparation: “What I take away from this story is that there is life after destruction and that there is a chance to rebuild. ... It also teaches me that there is an ongoing relationship between God and humanity that will never be broken; that human beings have responsibility for each other; and that the covenantal relationship between God and humanity is a paradigm for relationship between human beings.” - Blu Greenberg, American writer specializing in modern Judaism

Prelude

Aria for Organ
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Flor Peters

Invitation to our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Call to Worship

Kelly Locke, Liturgist

One: From water to wilderness:

All: God’s covenant continues; God’s kingdom draws near.

One: Through doves and olive branches and through rainbows and stone tablets:

All: God’s covenant continues; God’s kingdom draws near.

One: From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

All: God’s covenant continues; God’s kingdom draws near.

One: We worship and praise the God whose covenant promises bless us.

* **Hymn #725**

O Jesus, I Have Promised, vs. 1-4
[Nyland]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: When the world fell into chaos and rebellion, God saved Noah and his family from the waters of the flood. By light refracted in the water of clouds, God made the rainbow, a sign of God’s covenant never to abandon the earth and its inhabitants to the destructive curse of evil. God’s faithful love endures forever. Confident of God’s grace, let us confess our sin and the sin of this world.

All: Merciful God, we are a people born of water and the Spirit. We have made promises to be Christ’s faithful disciples, and to show his love to our life’s end. We too often fail to fulfill these baptismal vows. Although we claim to live as if Christ is among us, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken

world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste to the land and pollute the seas. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

One: Hear the good news! Because we were buried with Christ in these waters, we are also raised to life with him. God's grace is poured out upon us day by day. Come to the water and remember your baptism.

All: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Let us live as one who has been raised to new life. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

*** Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

Blessing of the Backpacks

Pastors Rebekah Anderson and Lisa Schrott

We invite all students, teachers, professors, and school administrators to come forward for a blessing. Bring your backpacks if you have them with you.

New Testament Scripture

1 Peter 3:18-22

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Holy God, as we prepare to hear scripture, I pray that once again, you would meet us here. Meet us in our hope and our heartache. Meet us in our fear and our joy, meet us in our cupped hands and open arms. And even if we do not have a sky-parting moment of clarity, or a tangible sense that you are near, we will trust that you are near, always and forever meeting us here. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

Old Testament Scripture

Genesis 8:6-12, 9:8-17

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Sermon

The Trust to Rebuild

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

PCO Chapel Choir

Martin Shaw

Minute for Mission

Loaves & Fishes

Barbara Dorr

Offering Pastor Rebekah Anderson
Invitation
Offertory *Air* Gordon Young
***Doxology #606**
***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People Kelly Locke, Liturgist
One: Lord in your mercy.
All: **Hear our prayer**

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

*** Hymn #722** *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak*, vs. 1-5
[Canonbury]

Benediction Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude *Jubilation* Gordon Young
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Education Time: All are invited to our intergenerational art project in Fellowship Hall following the service. Children, youth and adult classes will meet following this activity until 12:30 p.m.

Next Week's Scripture: Genesis 12: 1-9

Next Week's Adult Ed: Ukraine - Moldova Refugee Lunch and Learn in Fellowship Hall. A free will offering will be collected.

Ushers: *Jeff & Michele Arbour, Jane Paterson*

Flowers: *The flowers beautifying the sanctuary today are from Wayne & Barbara Scott.*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thanks to the Haskels for providing snacks and the Schabergs for making coffee.*

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the *Book of Common Worship*, Presbyterian Church, USA. Westminster John Knox Press, 2018.

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