

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
July 9, 2023
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost



Preparation: “Instructions for living a life: Pay attention. Be astonished. Tell about it.” -- Poet Mary Oliver

Prelude

Trumpet Tune and Air
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Jacques Aubrey

Invitation to our Shared Ministry

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 105)

Tom Schaberg, Liturgist

One: O give thanks to the Lord; call on God’s name; make known God’s deeds among the peoples.

All: **Sing to the Lord and tell of all God’s wonderful work. Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.**

One: Seek the Lord’s strength.

All: **Seek the Lord’s presence continually.**

One: Remember the wonderful works the Lord has done, the miracles and the judgments the Lord has uttered.

All: **O offspring of God’s servant Abraham, and children of Jacob, we come in worship and praise.**

* Hymn #409

God Is Here!, vs. 1-4
[Abbot’s Leigh]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We are a mixed bunch of people. Light and shadow, grace and judgment, goodness and sin live side by side in each of us. But our deep longing is that the life-giving, nourishing fruit we bear may overwhelm whatever weeds may have crept in. In that spirit, we join our voices together in confession:

All: **Merciful God, we confess that our capacity for love and friendship are sometimes weaker than our tendency to hatred and divisiveness. Help us make our desire for joy and goodness be larger than our lust for wealth and power. Make us those who live your values and purpose in a world that too easily chooses cursing over blessing, wounding over healing, and destruction over creativity; so that all creation may finally find its place in your harvest of life and love. Amen.**

Promise of the Gospel

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We do not fear for our God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

All: **God’s hand shall lead us and hold us fast. Let us be reconciled with God and at peace with one another.**

Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you.** *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

* Act of Praise #581

Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Holy One, open our minds and heart to these words from holy scripture so may we know your presence within our midst. Breathe through the words we hear, the songs we share, the burdens we carry, until we discover our purpose in your liberating love. Amen.

Scriptures

Genesis 28: 10-19a

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Sermon

The Presence of the Lord

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Special Music

Surely the Presence

Jonathan Townley, vocals & guitar

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

I Will Come to You (Hymn #177)

Jonathan Townley, vocals & guitar

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Tom Schaberg, Liturgist

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

* Hymn #404

What Is This Place?, vs. 1-3

[Komt Nu Met Zang]

* **Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Fanfare

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Jean Joseph Mouret

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

Ushers:

Gary & Trudy Sturk, Jeff & Michele Arbour

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thank you to Shirley Rumminger for supplying snacks and to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee. During the summer we can use more volunteers to make our after-worship Fellowship Time welcoming. Please check the sign-up lists on the kiosk for coffee making/clean-up and providing light snacks.*

Adult Education: Pastor Lisa will begin a 4-week Bible study on the last book of the New Testament, the book of Revelation. Why has this book received so much attention in the media and yet many of us don't understand what is actually written in the scripture? Week 1 will examine how the book of Revelation has been understood throughout history from the early days of the church, through the Reformation to the current day.

Next Week's Scripture: Mark 5:21-34

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Overwhelming the Weeds* by John van de Laar at Sacredise. Available online at <https://sacredise.com/overwhelming-the-weeds/>

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