

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
July 30, 2023
Ninth Sunday After Pentecost



Preparation: “For the first time in my life I saw the truth as it is set into song by so many poets, proclaimed as the final wisdom by so many thinkers. The truth - that Love is the ultimate and highest goal to which man can aspire. Then I grasped the meaning of the greatest secret that human poetry and human thought and belief have to impart: The salvation of man is through love and in love.”
Viktor Frankl

Prelude *Ballade* Charles-Édouard Lefebvre
Gaile Griffore, flute; Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello (1843-1917)
Connie Detjen, piano

Invitation to our Shared Ministry Pastor Lisa Schrott

Call to Worship Linda Cravotta, Liturgist

One: We gather as God’s beloved children.

All: However glad we are, however out of sorts we are, wherever we are.

One: We come together as a people called by Jesus to live in community with one another.

All: So this becomes a place where all are welcome and can be who they are.

One: We are here to give thanks, to pray and sing, to rejoice and to weep, and to be transformed by God’s unchanging love.

All: Let us all be restored! Let us worship God!

* **Hymn #805** *Come Sing to God*, vs. 1-4
[Ellacombe]

Prayer of Confession Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: God calls on all of us to be courageous and to take risks. God calls us to be like the father who comes to Jesus and asks that he heal his daughter or to be like the woman who faithfully reaches out to Jesus so she can be healed. With this call in our hearts, let us confess those moments in our lives when we have resisted turning to God with courage for healing and transformation.

All: God, we confess that we have not followed your law of love. We’ve turned away from the suffering of others and from our own pain. We’ve strayed from living wholeheartedly and we’ve allowed our desire to gain more to keep us from appreciating the abundance of all we already have. Fear guides our choices and we too often forget the abundance of your love and the generosity it calls us to. When we resist your call to open our hearts, soften us to allow your love and mercy to move us. When we turn away from your new and unexpected possibilities for healing and reconciliation, move us to be compassionate and courageous. Forgive us and help us to live into your call for our lives.

Promise of the Gospel Pastor Lisa Schrott
One: Friends, hear this good news: God's mercies are fresh every morning. God offers forgiving grace and welcomes all of us into a community of trust, abundance, and hope. In the name of Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God! Amen.

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 Rebekah Anderson
Loving God, your Word has the power to restore our lives. Open our hearts to the presence of your Spirit so that we might be restored to life and so that we might bring that spirit of new life to others. Let some word of this be yours. Amen.

Scriptures Mark 5:35-43 Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Sermon *Restored to Life*
Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Special Music *Reverie from Four Trio Miniature* Paul Juon
Instrumental Trio (1872-1940)

Minute for Service Red Cross Shelter Judi Harris

Offering Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory *There is a Balm in Gilead* arr: Robert J. Powell

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People Linda Cravotta, Liturgist
The Lord's Prayer "...forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors..."

* **Hymn #797** *We Cannot Measure How You Heal*, vs. 1-3
[Ye Banks and Braes]

* **Benediction** Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Postlude

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Instrumental Trio

John Wyeth
(1770-1858)
arr: Grace Kim

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Ushers: *Jayne Zuhlke, Sally Belloli*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: *Thank you to Jennifer Gordon for supplying snacks and to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee.*

Flowers: *The flowers beautifying our sanctuary today are from Dora & Edward Ennen.*

Adult Education: Pastor Lisa continues 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? This morning we will look at an overview of Chapters 11-22

Next Week's Scripture: Mark 6:30-44

The Call to Worship for this morning is adapted from words by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, 'Hold Fast to What Is Good.' Used with permission.

The Prayer of Confession and Assurance of the Gospel are adapted from Rev. Susan A. Blain from *Worship Ways*. Available online at <http://uccfiles.com/>

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♪ **MUSIC NOTES** ♪

Charles Lefebvre's Ballade for Flute, Cello and Piano dates from 1908. In one movement, it is a lovely, calm and reflective work with lyrical long-lined melodies. Charles Lefebvre was born in Paris. After initially studying law, he entered the Paris Conservatory where he studied with Ambroise Thomas and Charles Gounod. While there, he won the prestigious Prix de Rome, and the stipendium allowed him to live in Italy for several years. He composed in virtually every genre and chamber music comprises a sizeable portion of his output which was held in high regard. The Academie des Beaux Arts awarded him their Prix Chartier for chamber music excellence on two occasions in 1884 and 1895. He served for several years as Professor of Ensemble Performance at the Conservatory.

Paul Juon was born in Moscow and educated in a German school in Moscow before entering the Imperial Conservatory there to study violin and composition. During his lifetime, Paul Juon was widely regarded as an important composer and his works were performed frequently throughout Europe. He has been called the link between Tchaikovsky and Stravinsky. In his early music, one can hear the influence of his Russian homeland and schooling. His second period is more cosmopolitan and is in tune with the contemporary Central European trends of the early 20th century. Ultimately, it is hard to characterize his

music as Russian or German, Romantic, Modern or Folkloric, because one can find all of these elements. The Four Trio Miniatures date from 1901. The first, *Reverie*, which you will hear today, is dreamy and reflective, expressing a yearning for things past. These exquisite miniatures are among the finest little gems in the late romantic literature.

John Wyeth was born in Massachusetts in 1770. After apprenticing with a printer, he became manager of a printing company in Santo Domingo at the age of 21. He barely escaped the insurrection there with his life. In 1792, he returned to America, where he co-owned a newspaper in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 1793, President George Washington appointed him postmaster, but five years later President John Adams declared the position to be incompatible with his involvement in newspapers. Wyeth compiled two works, *Repository of Sacred Music, 1810* and *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813*. These volumes were highly successful, selling over 150,000 copies. The first of these books was prepared for the moderate evangelicals. At least 79 of the 122 texts are from Isaac Watts, 53 of which are psalm paraphrases. The book had a wide variety of evangelical themes but stayed away from sectarian or controversial doctrine. The second book was geared toward revival and camp-meetings, containing more revivalistic texts and less Isaac Watts, including melodies taken from folk hymns, such as NETTLETON, to which we sing 'Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing.'

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