

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
August 6, 2023
Tenth Sunday After Pentecost



Preparation: “Each person’s experience is as unique as their fingerprint. But what everyone has in common is that no matter how they live, they share a need for their experience to be witnessed.” Adapted from a quote by David Kessler

Prelude *Air* Samuel Wesley
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Invitation to our Shared Ministry Pastor Lisa Schrott

Call to Worship Jill Schaberg, Liturgist

One: As Jesus ministered to people in need, he asked his followers to come away with him to a deserted place and rest a while.

All: **God calls us to quiet and rest, even as we serve those in need, even as we worship God with grateful hearts.**

One: Our souls thirst for peace and quiet. Our lives need moments of rest.

All: **Let us find rest in God who restores our souls. Let us find our quiet center and worship God!**

* **Hymn #320** *The Church of Christ in Every Age*, vs. 1, 2, 4, 5
[Wareham]

Prayer of Confession Jill Schaberg, Liturgist

One: God’s open hands satisfy the hunger and thirst of every living thing, so we know God’s goodness will hold us no matter what. Too often though, we forget the way God calls us to feed one another by sharing God’s love with every person we encounter. Even in these moments, God’s love for us knows no bounds. With trust in God’s grace and abundance, let us confess our sin to God and one another.

All: **Generous God, we confess that all too often we have kept our hearts, hands, and minds firmly closed. We concern ourselves with our own wants at the expense of others and choose to see scarcity when your love offers abundance. Forgive us for those moments when we are consumed by fear that sharing what we have will lead to our own depletion. Forgive us for the moments when our busy-ness and need for certainty have kept us silent in the face of injustice. By your grace and mercy, guide and move us beyond a sense of powerlessness amid suffering to a place where we can dream and enact possibilities that allow your Kingdom of God to be a reality on earth. Help us transcend fear, so that we can be a people who feel, think, and act with hope that is rooted in the generosity of God’s love. Amen.**

Promise of the Gospel

Jill Schaberg, Liturgist

One: Friends, hear this good news: God's love offers us rest and peace. God's healing touch restores us to life that is rooted in abundance. God's love and forgiveness are endless! 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

Jill Schaberg, Liturgist

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

Middle School and High School Youth

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Scripture

Mark 6:30-44

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Sermon

Feeding Each Other

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Special Music

Seek Ye First

Vocalists: Kathi Cook, Doug Paterson

Karen Lafferty

Johann Pachelbel

arr: Douglas E. Wagner

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

Break Thou the Bread of Life

William F. Sherwin

arr. David N. Johnson

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Holy Communion

Pastor Lisa Schrott and Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

Breaking of the Bread

Communion Prayer of Sending

Pastor Lisa Schrott, Jill and Tom Schaberg

Bread for the Journey

Celebrating the Ministry of the Rev. Rebekah Anderson

* **Hymn #498**

Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken, vs. 1-4
[Beach Spring]

* **Benediction**

Pastor Rebekah Anderson

Postlude

Gavotte
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Samuel Wesley

Called Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation to dissolve the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Rebekah Anderson and the Presbyterian Church of Okemos. While all are invited and welcome to remain for this short meeting, only members of PCO may vote.

** Please rise in body or spirit*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thanks to members of the Personnel Committee, Parish Life Committee and the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee which called Rebekah for hosting a reception to celebrate Rebekah's ministry with us at PCO, and thank you to Edward Ennen for preparing the coffee.

Ushers: Beth Layhe, Jane Paterson, Tom Schaberg, Keith Camann

Adult Education: There will be no adult education this week. Please enjoy an extended time of fellowship as we bid farewell to Rebekah.

Next Week's Scripture: Genesis 32:22-31

Next Week's Adult Education: Pastor Lisa will conclude the study on the book of Revelation. We will consider chapters 17-22 and discuss how this book applies to our life today.

The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Promise of the Gospel are adapted from Christian Aid's Weekly Prayers website via re-worship.blogspot.com. Christian Aid's website can be accessed at <http://www.christianaid.org.uk/>.

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Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff
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