The Presbyterian Church of Okemos September 17, 2023 Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Preparation: "God's justice moves toward restoration, reintegration, and redemption. God's justice is inherently connected to healing the harmed, restoring what has been lost, and reconciling those who are estranged from God and community. God's heart and justice are inherently restorative." --- Dominique DuBois Gilliard, Director of Racial Righteousness and Reconciliation for the Evangelical Covenant Church.

Prelude

Avinu Malkeinu Our Father, Our King Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist Christina Harmon

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Peace I Leave You PCO Chancel Choir

Invitation to our Shared Ministry

Welcome 2023-2024 Choir Scholarship Recipients

Westin Samel Changel Chain Dineste

Westin Sorrel, Chancel Choir Director

Eleanor Barbour, Soprano Amira Coleman, Alto John Herzog, Tenor Tyrell Harris, Bass

Call to Worship

One: In sacred times of word, wonder, and awe, in ordinary days of work and play:

- All: in every moment, God is with us.
- One: Whether we are stuck in doubt's mud, or standing on faith's shoreline:

All: in every place, God is with us.

- One: In those who teach us and those who trouble us; in those who surprise us, and those who forgive us:
- All: in every person, God is with us.

* Hymn #316	Where Charity and Love Prevail, vs. 1-5	
	[Twenty-Fourth]	

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: As we stand before God, we think of all the times we have not shown mercy and grace to those around us. Let us bow our hearts and confess our sin to God, as we pray together and individually in silence.

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

All: God of mercy, it is never easy for us to confess but deep down inside, we know that while we have received grace, we have trouble being grace-full to others. (silent prayer) While we are forgiven, we are eager to judge and punish all who hurt us. (silent prayer) While we are freed, we find ways to put restrictions on people we fear. (silent prayer) Forgive us, God. Remind us that you forgive us more times than we can count. Teach us to be more like you, merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Amen.

Prom	ise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace	Pastor Lisa Schrott
One:	God's hand of mercy is stretched out to us, making a way through a	ll that threatens us, to
	touch us with grace and hope.	

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia. Amen.

- As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ One: be with you.
- And also with you. Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable. All:
- * Act of Praise #581

Children's Sermon

Anthem

Ubi Caritas Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart.

Praver of Illumination

Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist

God of wisdom and mercy, by the power of your Spirit, open our eyes and hearts to your Word of love, mercy, healing, and blessing, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Old Testament Scripture	Genesis 50:15-21	Ellen Hoekstra, Liturgist		
New Testament Scripture	Matthew 18:21-35	Pastor Lisa Schrott		
Sermon	Building a Network of Care and Shalom Pastor Lisa Schrott			
Affirmation of Faith	From the PC(USA) Brief Statement of Faith In a broken and fearful world	in unison		
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,				
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,				
	to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,			

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Gloria Patri

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. Minute for Service Peace and Global Witness Offering Kent Workman Offering Pastor Lisa Schrott Invitation Offertory Love Consecrates the Humblest Act Setting by Michael Burkhardt [Twenty Fourth] *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 #308 O God in Whom All Life Begins, vs. 1-3 (Noël) * Benediction Pastor Lisa Schrott Postlude Postlude on Ose Shalom Christina Harmon Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

* Please rise in body or spirit

Music Notes: The prelude and postlude for this morning's service are based on traditional Jewish melodies arranged by Christina Harmon. While serving several decades as a church musician in the Baptist church, Harmon was also organist for Temple Emanuel-El in Dallas, Texas. It was during these years that she created many organ arrangements of the most well-known and beautiful Jewish liturgical melodies.

Ushers: Morrie and Barb Hoevel, Ron and Barbara Dorr

Adult Ed: Stephanie Nawyn will begin a 4-week study on Welcoming the New Neighbor.

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Parish Life for supplying a birthday cake and to Edward Ennen for preparing the coffee.

Next Week Scripture: Jonah 3:10-4:11; Matthew 20:1-16

Next Week Adult Education: Stephanie Nawyn continues the study on Welcoming the New Neighbor.

The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are adapted from liturgy by the Rev. Thom Shuman from Lectionary Liturgies. It can be found online at <u>http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2017/09/liturgy-</u><u>with-communion-for-september-17.html</u>. The Affirmation of Faith of Affirmation of Faith is from The Brief Statement of Faith (11.4) in *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Part I. Book of Confessions*. Office of the General Assembly 2016.

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