

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**October 22, 2023**  
**Twenty First Sunday After Pentecost**



**Preparation:** "... worship is far more than expressive; it is formational. It makes us. It focuses our attention. It orders our priorities. It teaches us what's important and what isn't. As Richard Rohr puts it, we have to be careful, because we will always become the God we worship. Our prayer, our devotion, our praise—these rewire us. They enable us to see, hear, and think in new ways. What we worship makes us who we are." -- Author and Minister for Lifelong Formation Debie Thomas

**Prelude** *Sonata 1 in G Major* J.S. Bach  
[Allegro Moderato]  
Dr. Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cellist  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, pianist

**Choral Introit** *Let the Whole Creation Cry*  
PCO Chancel Choir

**Invitation to our Shared Ministry** Rebecca Mattern

**Call to Worship** Alex Juarez, Liturgist

One: It is the Lord our God who calls us by name  
**All: We are called even before we know God.**  
One: The Lord our God provides us with His work  
**All: God equips us for the work to which She calls us.**  
One: The Lord our God is one God  
**All: From east to west, there are no other gods.**  
One: God forms light and creates darkness  
**All: They make harmonies and create discords.**  
One: Let us worship the One God who does all these things.

**\* Hymn #41** *O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!*, vs. 1-5  
[Lyons]

**Prayer of Confession** Pastor Lisa Schrott  
One: Paul's letter to Ephesians, words that are at the center of our Reformed faith, remind us that for it is by grace we have been saved, through faith—and this is not from ourselves, it is the gift of God. Let us confess our sin in God's presence, using the prayer you see before you...  
**All: God of Grace, you ask us to choose priorities different from those of the world, and yet we can find ourselves living with your word on the edge of our life rather than at the center. The world tells us our worth is defined by our achievements, but in your grace you declare that salvation is a free gift. Forgive us when we fail to follow your way.**

**Point us to the freedom offered by the saving gift of your grace and a life lived in response to your love. Reorient our lives so you alone are at the center. Lead us, so all we do, in word and in deed, is for your glory and praise.**  
(moment of silence for personal confession)

**Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Love of God was made concrete when Christ came to dwell among us.

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

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 Lisa Schrott

**Special Music**

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

arr: Valerie Stephenson

PCO Handbell Choir

Irene Shutt, Director

**Prayer of Illumination**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Holy God, we know that our own words lack knowledge whenever we try to speak of you or to you. Yet we are drawn into your presence and desire to understand all your mysteries. So now, by the gift of your Holy Spirit, speak your words and we will listen carefully, glorifying your name. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen

**Scriptures**

Isaiah 45:1-7 and Matthew 22:15-22

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Sermon**

*Worship that Glorifies God*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Affirmation of Faith**

From the Second Helvetic Confession (5.023)

in unison

God alone is to be adored and worshipped. We teach that the true God alone is to be adored and worshipped. This honor we impart to none other, according to the commandment of the Lord, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve." Indeed, all the prophets severely inveighed against the people of Israel whenever they adored and worshipped strange gods, and not the only true God. But we teach that God is to be adored and worshipped as he himself has taught us to worship, namely, "in spirit and in truth," not with any superstition, but with sincerity, according to his Word.

**Minute for Gratitude**

Gratitude for the Present

Alex Juarez

**Offering**

**Invitation**

Rebecca Mattern

**Offertory**

*Jesus bleibet meine Freude*

J.S. Bach

PCO Chancel Choir

Jesus remains my joy,  
the comfort and life's blood of my heart,  
Jesus defends me against all sorrows,  
he is my life's strength,  
the delight and sun of my eyes  
my soul's treasure and joy;  
therefore I shall not let Jesus go  
from my heart and sight.

**\*Doxology #606**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

Alex Juarez, Liturgist

One: Lord in your mercy,

**All: Hear our prayer.**

**The Lord's Prayer**

in unison

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**\* Hymn #275**

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*, vs. 1-4

Martin Luther

[Ein' Feste Burg]

**\* Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Postlude**

Chorale Prelude on *Ein' Feste Burg*  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Friedrich Wilhelm Marburg

*\* Please rise in body or spirit*

**Adult Ed:** Help us package hygiene kits for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). All of the supplies will be provided - we need your hands! This activity is suitable for all ages. Help us provide comfort for those who have affected by natural disasters throughout our country

**This Morning's Fellowship Team:** Thank you to Parish Life for supplying the snacks this morning and to Brett Cone for preparing the coffee.

**Ushers:** Brett & Lynn Cone, Deb & Joel Major

## MUSIC NOTES

J.S. Bach (1685-1750) is regarded by many as the greatest composer in the history of Western music. Bach lived and worked in the shadow of Martin Luther where, as one writer described it “Luther was a great deal more compelling than gravity.”

Guided by his Lutheran convictions, Bach devoted his life to creating music to the glory of God. At the end of his compositions, both sacred and some secular, Bach inscribed the letters “S.D.G.” (Soli Deo Gloria- To God Alone, the glory). The phrase has since become one of the five solas associated with the Reformation, sola scriptura (scripture alone), Solis Christa (Christ alone), sola fide (faith alone), sola gratia (grace alone), and soli Deo gloria (glory to God alone). Each sola represents a key belief in the Protestant tradition that is distinctive from the doctrines of the Catholic Church.



## Next Week October 29, 2023

**Scripture:** Leviticus 19:1-12, 15-18; Matthew 22:34-46

**Congregational Meeting.** The Session has called a meeting of the congregation following worship for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons, and members of the Endowment Committee.

**Education Hour:** Volunteer Service Fair. Looking for ways to serve in the church? Come and hear about ways to match your gifts with the church's needs as we seek to be faithful stewards of our time and talent.

The Affirmation of Faith is from *The Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Part I. Book of Confessions*. Office of the General Assembly 2016.

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Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott, Pastor/Head of Staff  
Rebecca Mattern, Interim Director of Faith Formation  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist  
Westin Sorrel, Chancel Choir Director  
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director  
Edward Ennen, Sexton  
Anna Thiel, Office Manager