

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**October 29, 2023**  
**Twenty Second Sunday After Pentecost**



**Preparation:** “Right now, the world you are inheriting is locked in a struggle between love and fear. Fear manifests as anger, insecurity, and loneliness. Fear eats away at our society, leaving all of us less whole, so we teach you that every healthy relationship inspires love, not fear. Love shows up as kindness, generosity, and compassion. It is healing. It makes us more whole.” -- Dr. Vivek H. Murthy, U.S. Surgeon General

**Prelude** *Little Prelude and Intermezzi* Hermann Schroeder  
Maestoso, Andante Sostenuto, Allegretto  
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker

**Choral Introit** *For the Healing of the Nations*  
PCO Chancel Choir

**Invitation to our Shared Ministry** Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Call to Worship** Dorinda VanKempen, Liturgist

One: We are called to love God with our hearts.

**All: We worship God when we welcome those tossed aside by the world.**

One: We are called to love God with our souls.

**All: We worship God when the brokenness around us transforms us into more compassionate people.**

One: We are called to love God with our minds.

**All: We worship God, when we think less of our needs, and see each person as our neighbor.  
Let us worship God!**

\* **Hymn #761** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*, vs. 1-4  
[Beecher]

**Prayer of Confession** Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We know the lives we are called to lead could offer hope, grace, and peace with God. And they could offer hope, grace, and peace to our neighbors. Yet we don't always choose those paths. Join me, as we confess the ways we have failed to live out this call.

**All: God of Grace, we have so many rules in the backs of our minds for others to follow, that we often forget to simply love them. We use words and actions which shatter the hearts of others, as ours slowly wither from lack of the breath of your Spirit. Forgive us for our choosing to live the way we want, Merciful God, rather than being the holy people of your hopes. May we speak the words you give us, as we share the good news of grace. May we seek to love you as completely and trustingly as did Jesus the Christ.  
(moment of silence for personal confession) Amen.**

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

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Nothing will deter God from sharing this good news with us: we are heard, we are forgiven, we are offered new lives of service and faith.

**All: Thanks be to God, who offers justice not judgment; who shares grace with us, not holds grudges against us. We are forgiven. 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**

*Adagio and Presto*  
Youth Instrumental Choir  
Maddie Pearson, trumpet  
Alex Juarez, trumpet  
Andrew Mayhew, euphonium  
Spencer Locke, tuba  
Sarah Mayhew, Director

Niccolò Antonio Zingarelli  
arr: John M Carlsten &  
Sarah Mayhew

**Prayer of Illumination**

Dorinda VanKempen, Liturgist

Come, Holy Spirit, in the Word of God, as the breath of life, amidst your people gathered here, into our hearts and minds. May these words be at work in us, stirring us to offer, welcome, healing, justice and peace as your people. We pray in the name of the one who taught us and called us to serve. Amen.

**Old Testament Scripture**

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-10, 17-18

Dorinda VanKempen, Liturgist

**New Testament Scripture**

Matthew 22:34-46

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Sermon**

*Offering Welcome, Healing, Justice and Peace*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Minute for Gratitude**

Gratitude for the Present

Jill Schaberg

**Offering**

**Invitation**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Offertory**

*Peace I Leave With You*

Amy Beach

PCO Chancel Choir

\*Doxology #606

\*Prayer of Dedication

Pastor Lisa Sch

## Prayers of the People

Dorinda VanKempen, 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 #372

*O For a World*, vs. 1-5

[Azmon]

\* **Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Postlude**

*Little Prelude and Intermezzi*

Hermann Schroeder

Poco Vivace

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

## 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. We encourage all to remain for this brief meeting; however only members are eligible to vote. For those joining us via Zoom, the link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82094040638> (820 9404 0638)

\* *Please rise in body or spirit*

**Adult Ed:** 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. There will also be a space and materials for you to write a note of care to our friends and neighbors in the Jewish and Muslim communities.

**This Morning's Fellowship Team:** Thank you to Kent Workman and Sally Belloli for providing snacks and to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee.

**Ushers:** Jayne Zuhlke, Sally Belloli, Sue Cobbett

## Next Week November 5, 2023 - Communion Sunday

**Roll Call of the Saints** – If you would like to recognize loved ones who have passed away during the roll call, please send their names to the church office **by Thursday, November 2.**

**Scripture:** Psalm 107:1-9, 33-37

**Education Hour: We need your input for our Journey to 2030 visioning.** What are your dreams for PCO as we look ahead? How are we called to serve God? Our strategic visioning committee will be facilitating a conversation on how our ministry will be shaped in the future. Add your voice to the conversation.

Our liturgy this morning was inspired and adapted from work by the Rev. Thom M. Shuman at *Lectionary Liturgies*. Available online at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2020/10/alternate-texts-liturgy-wcommunion-for.html>

*You are in an active recording environment, and your likeness may be captured in photographs and videos. By entering, you acknowledge giving consent to The Presbyterian Church of Okemos to take, own and use images containing your likeness at its sole discretion in perpetuity. If you do not wish to convey this consent, please contact a staff member immediately.*

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**

2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864

(517) 349-9536

Website: <https://okemospres.org>

Email: [office@okemospres.org](mailto:office@okemospres.org)

<https://twitter.com/okemospres>

<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



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