

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
June 9, 2024
Third Sunday After Pentecost



Preparation: “Something new is happening: the sense that the other side is less than fully human, that its supporters are not part of the same moral community as us, that somehow their sensibilities are alien and threatening, as if they were not the opposition in a political arena, but the enemy full stop.” Rabbi Jonathan Sacks, from *Morality: Restoring the Common Good in Divided Times*, 2020.

Gathering As a People of God

Prelude

A Kingsfold Suite

David Dahl

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Acolyte

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

***Opening Sentences**

Nina Roya, liturgist

One: Jesus often crossed paths with others not from his “tribe.” He did not shy away. Actually, he most often sought out these opportunities. He met people in their daily lives and locales, such as the Samaritan woman at the well and her community, and engaged with them at the point of their deepest yearning.

All: **When we seek out and are open to new encounters, new people, new relationships, we allow ourselves a spiritual rendezvous with humanity. And in this act, we discover more depth within us than we previously imagined.**

One: God’s Spirit exists everywhere, on every path, inviting us to move with curiosity and compassion toward each other.

All: **May we be open to deepen our connections even when it seems difference is so profound. May we celebrate our shared humanity so that we will know what others love, see that we love the same, and share the burdens and the love.**

*** Hymn #182**

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say, vs. 1-3
(Kingsfold, English Folk Song)

Prayer of Confession

Rebecca Mattern

One: Weary travelers are part of so many stories of encounter and hospitality. Jesus was surely weary, stopping at a well in the heat of the day for a drink. In his encounter there, a woman gives him a drink. Let us remember our own thirst for the living water, especially when we are weary and afraid. Let us pray:

All: **Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole hearts and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, through what we have done and left**

undone. Forgive us when we forget your hospitality, and the call to extend it to others. Guide us as we seek to turn around toward greater love. Lead us to travel in your ways. (silent prayer) Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Rebecca Mattern

One: Know this: The cup of grace is extended to us already and always. At our moments of isolation, Jesus offers invitation and relationship. He is our constant companion, inviting us to meet and companion one another. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.

One: It is as a forgiven people that we share the peace of Christ. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

* Act of Praise #581

Gloria Patri

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Rebecca Mattern

Speak to us, living God, as you have spoken to our ancestors: through the voices of your prophets, the breath of your Spirit, and the life of your Son, so that we may live according to your word; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Children's Message

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 121

Rebecca Mattern

New Testament Dialogue

John 4: 3-28, 39

Pastor Lisa Schrott
Rebecca Mattern and Ewen Todd

Sermon

The Encounter

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Special Music

He That Keepeth Israel
Westin Sorrel, soloist

Adolphe Schlösser

Responding to the Word

Moment of Gratitude

Faith Formation Volunteers

Rebecca Mattern

Offering

Rebecca Mattern

Invitation

Offertory

Gigue

Elizabeth Turner
(d. 1756)

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Nina Roy, 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.

Sent Out As a People of God

* Hymn #766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound, vs. 1-4

[McKee]

* **Commissioning of the Intergenerational Mission Team**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Youth: Becca Boldrey, Connor and Evan Haskel, Alex Juarez, Lucas Meland, Maddie Pearson, Nina and Emma Roy.

Adults: Sally Belloli, Dave and Sandy Detrisac, Becky Gillespie, Jennifer Gordon, Ellen Hoekstra, Sophia Juarez, Chandra Juarez, Deb Major, Christine and Roy Meland, Jill and Tom Schaberg, Barbara and Wayne Scott, Dorinda and Gary VanKempen.

Congregational Response: We rejoice to recognize you as representatives of our church and thank God for your dedication and your gift of service. We send you forth with our prayers and our support, and with you, we renew our commitment to God and service in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray God's blessings for you and all who you will serve. Amen.

* **Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

March in D Major

Elizabeth Turner

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting following worship for the purpose of electing an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. The slate of candidates is: Candy Boldrey, Brett Cone, Lauren Gierman, Jerri Gillette, Zach Nawyn-Hellinga and Matt Pearson. All are encouraged and welcome to stay for the meeting. As a reminder, only PCO members are able to vote. Zoom 841 3961 4274

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

Education Time: Sunday School for children and youth is on break for the summer. All are welcome to attend Education Hour in Fellowship Hall. Today we welcome Sarah Clinkscales from End Violent Encounters (EVE).

Ushers: Gary & Trudy Sturk, Jeff & Michele Arbour

Flowers: The flowers beautifying our sanctuary this morning are from Christine and Roy Meland in honor of their 29th wedding anniversary.

Music Notes:

This morning's Offertory and Postlude are from a collection of pieces for the organ by women composers from the 17th through 20th centuries. Elizabeth Turner (d. 1756) was an 18th century English singer, harpsichordist and composer. She was one of the first English women to publish a significant collection of musical works including a collection of 19 songs and Six Lessons for the Harpsichord. It is well documented that in her lifetime Turner's music achieved great popularity, appearing in publications along with works by George Frederick Handel and William Boyce.

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Dave Rumminger and Gary VanKempen for taking care of the coffee and to Becky Gillespie and Kathy Richardson for supplying our snacks.

Next Week June 16, 2024: Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Revelation 21: 22-26

Adult Education: Sermon Talk Back

The graphic and liturgy this morning is adapted from *Quest* by Dr. Marcia McFee at Worship Design Studio www.worshipdesignstudio.com/quest. The New Testament Dialogue is adapted from the *Readers' Theatre: Jesus and the Samaritan Woman* using The Voice Bible translation. Available online at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/02/readers-theatre-john-4-5-42.html>

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Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott (she/her), Pastor/Head of Staff
Rebecca Mattern (she/her), Interim Director of Faith Formation
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Westin Sorrel (he/him), Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
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