

# The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of Easter

Music Appreciation Sunday



## Gathering As a People of God

**Preparation:** “If we understand the world—the created order—as music in some way, then we can begin to understand our place in it, and to have some wisdom about where we fit. ... And the whole point about music is: it is both rational, that is something that is ordered, and aesthetic, something that is very, very beautiful. ... And that combination makes it very special because it seems to say something about why the world is good.” – Daniel Chua, Musicologist and Professor of Music, University of Hong Kong, from his book *Music & Joy: Lessons on the Good Life*. 2024.

### Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

#### Prelude

*My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*  
Gail Lytle Lira, piano

arr: Anna Laura Page

### Setting the Table

#### Choral Introit

*How Happy Are the Saints of God*  
PCO Chancel Choir  
Westin Sorrel, director

#### \* Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 150)

Elliot Ryser, Liturgist

One: Praise the Lord! Praise God in the sanctuary;

**All: Praise God throughout the earth!**

One: Praise God for the mighty deeds and God’s surpassing greatness!

**All: Praise God with trumpet sound; praise God with lute and harp!**

One: Praise God with tambourine and bells; praise God with strings and pipe!

**All: Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!**

#### \* Hymn #371

*New Songs of Celebration* Render vs. 1-3  
[RENDEZ À DIEU]

### Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. So let us be honest and confess what separates us from God and our neighbors, trusting in God’s constant desire to forgive and renew.

**All: God of mercy, we confess that we have strayed from your paths of right relationship and peace, and we have dishonored you, ourselves, and your creation. We repent of these hurtful ways. Your command to love one another across all differences opens us to new**

**horizons, yet we often respond with fear and judgment that hinders your goal for humanity. Forgive our sins, we pray, as we learn to forgive others. Guide our feet into the way of peace. *Silent prayer.* Amen**

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

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. The old life has passed away—and a new life has begun.

**All: Thanks be to God. 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*

**The Word**

**Prayer of Illumination**

Elliot Ryser, Liturgist

O God, whose Word is like water to the root of the tree, let your Word now flow into us that we might flourish—bearing gospel fruit for a hungry world. In the name of Jesus, the Living Word, we pray. Amen.

**Children's Sermon**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Old Testament Reading**

Psalm 1:1-3

Elliot Ryser, Liturgist

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**New Testament Scripture**

Colossians 2:6 -7

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Rooted in Christ & Engaged in Community*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Responding to the Word**

**Anthem**

*How Firm a Foundation*

arr: Jason Krug

PCO Handbell Choir

Irene Shutt, Director

**Minute for Gratitude**

Celebration of our Chancel Choir & Handbell Choir

**Offering**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory***Comfort Me, Dear Lord*

Berta &amp; Sonja Poorman

PCO Chancel Choir

Comfort me, dear Lord. Bring your peace to me. Walk with me in pastures green.  
Quiet me, dear Lord. Fill me with your love. Make my soul and spirit clean; comfort me.  
Awake in me a heart that is free. I will be ready to live.  
Show me the way and lead me each day. I will be able to give.  
Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
Leave to thy God to order and provide; in every change he faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heav'nly friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

**\*Doxology #606****\*Prayer of Dedication****Holy Communion**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation****The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

**All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.****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.**

**Breaking of the Bread****Communion of the People**

Communion will be served by intinction. Please take a piece of bread and dip into the cup of juice and partake as you return to your seat. The bread is gluten, soy, nut and dairy free so all may partake together.

**Communion Music:***God So Loved the World*

arr: Jan Sanborn

Gail Lytle Lira, piano

**Communion Prayer**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Sent Out As a People of God****\* Hymn #641***When in Our Music God Is Glorified vs. 1,2, 3 and 5*

[ENGELBERG]

\* **Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Postlude**

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*  
Gail Lytle Lira, pianist

arr: Larry Shackley

\* Please rise in body or spirit

**Ushers:** Jack Harkema, Tom Schaberg, Jill Tribell, Jayne Zuhlke

**This Morning's Fellowship Team:** Thank you to the PCO Green Team for supplying snacks, to Tom Schaberg for making coffee and to Wayne Scott for washing dishes.

**Education Hour:** Celebrate Creation Care with the Green Team! Activities for all ages.

**Next Week:** May 11, 2025

**Scripture:** Matthew 22: 34-40; Matthew 25: 42-45

**Education Hour:** Children through 4th grade: (Room 116)

Middle School Youth 5th-8th grade: Middle School Room (107)

Adult & High School Youth: The Justice League of Greater of Lansing

The Prayer of Confession (adapted) and Prayer of Illumination are from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C*, Volume 1; Westminster John Knox Press. 2012

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*Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott (she/her), Pastor/Head of Staff*  
*Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist*  
*Westin Sorrel (he/him), Chancel Choir Director*  
*Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director*  
*Edward Ennen, Sexton*  
*Anna Thiel, Office Manager*  
*Gabrielle Shelton (she/her), Media Specialist*