

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
May 25, 2025
Sixth Sunday of Easter



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: “The dominant trend of a man's life may take on the characteristics of a canal, reservoir or swamp. The important accent is on the dominant trend. There are some lives that seem ever to be channels, canals through which things flow. They are connecting links between other people, movements, purposes. ... If you are a canal, what kind of things do you connect? Or are you a reservoir? Are you a resource which may be drawn upon in times of others' needs and your own as well? Have you developed a method for keeping your inlet and your outlet in good working order so that the cup which you give is never empty? ... Are you a swamp? Are you always reaching for more and more, hoarding whatever comes your way as your special belongings? ... The water in a swamp has no outlet. Canal, reservoir or swamp-- WHICH?” Rev. Howard Thurman, from *Meditations of the Heart*, 1953

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

The Good Shepherd

Dale Wood

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Lighting the Candles

*** Call to Worship (adapted from Psalm 91)**

Kathi Cook, Liturgist

One: You who live in the shelter of the Most High, who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,

All: will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust.”

One: The Lord will deliver you from the snare of the hunter. Under his wings you will find refuge.

All: The faithfulness of the Lord is a shield and defense.

One: You will not fear the terror of the night or the arrow that flies by day.

All: Because you have made the Lord your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place.

One: When we call to the Lord, the Lord will answer.

All: Let us worship our Lord who is our refuge.

*** Hymn #187**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us, vs. 1-4

[Bradbury]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Lord is our shepherd and like a shepherd, the Lord never stops seeking us. Before we recognize a need for grace, Jesus gave us forgiveness through his death and resurrection. Therefore we can come before Jesus, confessing our sins:

All: God of mercy, we confess that we need your forgiveness. You are the shepherd and we are your flock, but we admit the times we have tried to take your place and take control ourselves. We admit that we have not always trusted your good news to be good for us. At times we have pleaded with you to care for us, but we have held back from caring for others and ignored the needs of others. Lord, have mercy upon us. Forgive us. Teach us by the Holy Spirit to follow you in the days and places of the weeks ahead. Through Jesus Christ we pray. *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

Kathi Cook, Liturgist

Lord God, we are your people, the flock you have gathered. By the leading of your Spirit, help us to listen for your voice and follow in your paths all the days of our lives. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 15:7-11

Kathi Cook, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Reading

John 10:11-18; John 21:15-16

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Rooted & Engaged: Tend My Lambs

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Responding to the Word

Special Music

Westin Sorrel, Chancel Choir Director

Minute for Mission

Pentecost Offering

Kent Workman

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

My Shepherd Will Supply

Resignation

Setting: David N. Johnson

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Kathi Cook, 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 #346**

For the Healing of the Nations, vs. 1-4

[St. Thomas]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in G

Sam Batt Owens

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

* Please rise in body or spirit

Ushers: Ron & Barbara Dorr, Morrie & Barbara Hoevel

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Shirley Rumminger for supplying the snacks this morning and to Edward Ennen for making coffee and washing dishes.

Education Hour: There is no formal Education Hour today. Enjoy your Memorial Day Weekend!

Next Week: June 1, 2025

Scripture: Isaiah 58: 6-9; John 21: 9-19

Education Hour: *Feed My Sheep:* Join us as we explore the story of the Risen Lord's appearance to the disciples on the beach at the Sea of Galilee. This intergenerational event will be led by Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, Eunice Creswell & Catherine Holdway and will include three opportunities to experience the story.

The Prayer of Confession (adapted) from the words of Rev. Dan Carmichael, Minister of Lenzie Union. It was posted on The Church of Scotland's Weekly Worship website.
<http://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/>

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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

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