

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
August 3, 2025
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: "The rich man sees the world the way most people do. From his perspective, the crisis he faces is that he has too much of a good thing, too much stuff to store, and he does the best he can with what he sees: he builds more storage. But what if there is another way to see."— Dr. Tom Long, 2024

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Prelude on "Merle's Tune"
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

setting, Brenda Portman

*** Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 84, CEB)

Beth Layhe, Liturgist

One: How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord of heavenly forces! My very being longs, even yearns, for the Lord's courtyards.

All: My heart and my body will rejoice out loud to the living God!

One: Yes, the sparrow too has found a home there; where she can lay her young beside your altars,

All: Lord of heavenly forces, my king, my God!

One: Those who live in your house are truly happy; they praise you constantly.

All: Better is a single day in your courtyards than a thousand days anywhere else!

One: The Lord is a sun and shield; God is favor and glory. The Lord gives—doesn't withhold—good things to those who walk with integrity.

All: Lord of heavenly forces, those who trust in you are truly happy!

*** Hymn # 402**

How Lovely, Lord (Psalm 84)
[MERLES TUNE]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We live in an abundant world. Our creator makes it so. And yet we too often live with a mindset of scarcity. So we come each week to bare our hearts and souls in confession communally and individually:

All: The ads online, on TV, and everywhere we look shout: "Buy me! You deserve me! You're only worthy with me!" Some days we shout back: Enough! And other days we let a theology and attitude of scarcity overtake us. On those days we allow what we have to define us, control us, and restrict us. God provides enough. God creates a world of abundance. But our certainty of scarcity, our idolatry of the shiny, and our fears of others prevent us from gratitude, graciousness, and sharing. Move our hearts, lessen our fears in this hour. There is enough for all of us. (Silent prayer) Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Praise be to the God of Abundant Love! Praise to the God of Enough! It is through the God of abundant love that we are forgiven for in life, in death, in life after death nothing can separate us from the love of God. In the name of Jesus you are forgiven.

All: **Thanks be to God. 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.*

* Response #447

We Are Forgiven

Three staves of music in G major, 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. Chords are indicated above the notes: G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, Am7, Dsus, D, G, Am, D7, Gsus, G, C, G, Am7, D, G.

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.
We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Beth Layhe, Liturgist

God of wisdom, may the Spirit break through our fears that we need more and more of earthly riches.

May the Spirit break through our uncertainty and anxiety so we may hear your voice with clarity.

Encourage us that in the Word proclaimed we might know your truth. In Jesus' name we ask it. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott

First Scripture Reading

Exodus 16:11-21

Beth Layhe, Liturgist

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

First Scripture Reading

Luke 12:13-21

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Treasures Stored

Pastor Lisa Schrott

* Hymn #434

Restore in Us, O God
[BAYLOR]

Responding to the Word

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

The Gift of Love

arr. Janet Linker

***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 Prayer

Sent Out As a People of God

*** Hymn #693**

Though I May Speak

[GIFT OF LOVE]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Processional in C

Hal H. Hopson

Marlene Brewbaker, organist

* Please rise in body or spirit

Music Notes

This morning we join the wider church community in mourning the passing of the beloved Presbyterian musician Hal H. Hopson. A prolific composer, Hopson published over 3,000 works spanning almost every form of sacred music. A church musician throughout his life, he served as a conductor and clinician for hymn festivals and workshops around the world and as a professor of church music at Westminster Choir College. Hopson had a special interest in congregational singing and made a significant contribution to the repertoire of hymn tunes, texts, responses, and psalm settings including 13 contributions to the 2013 Presbyterian *Glory to God* hymnal. Hopson's cantata "God with Us" was one of the few compositions selected by a panel at the Kennedy Center, Washington DC, to be placed in a capsule during the U.S. Bicentennial in 1976. It will be opened at the Tricentennial in 2076 and the cantata will be heard again as a representative piece of American choral composition of this century.

The prelude for this morning's service is a setting of Hopson's popular melody "Merle's Tune" named for the composer's oldest sister, his first piano teacher. Merle's Tune appears several times in the hymnal including the opening hymn How Lovely, Lord (Psalm 84). The two short responses "Restore in Us, O God" and "We Are Forgiven" are examples of Hopson's love for sung congregational responses. The closing hymn "The Gift of Love", a paraphrase of 1 Corinthians 13, is considered Hopson's best known hymn and is often heard as a solo or anthem arrangement. The postlude, a festive trumpet voluntary, is one of Hopson's many works for organ.

Ushers: Jane Paterson, Jill Tribell, Tom Schaberg and Keith Camann

This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour: Thank you to Kent Workman for supplying snacks for fellowship time, to Tom Schaberg for making coffee and to Dave Rumminger washing the dishes.

Education Hour: Education Hour is on summer break. Enjoy extended & intentional fellowship time.

The Prayer of Confession was adapted from words by Tim Graves, and posted on his blog LiturgyBits: Little bits for worship. <https://liturgybits.wordpress.com/>

Next Week: August 10, 2025 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Genesis 15:1-6

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

<https://www.instagram.com/okemospres/>

<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>

Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott (she/her), Pastor/Head of Staff

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director

Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director

Edward Ennen, Sexton

Anna Thiel, Office Manager

Gabrielle Shelton (she/her), Media Specialist