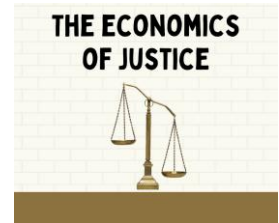


The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
August 24, 2025
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: "Coveting is a violation of neighborliness. Thus, the Bible readily links together *the hidden force of inappropriate desire* and *the practical real-world acquisitiveness of such a desire* that does damage to the community. ... Inappropriate desire is tantamount to the worship of false gods. An economy of acquisitiveness that is willing and able to violate vulnerable neighbors is the embrace of a false world presided over by false gods that cannot save." – Walter Brueggemann, from *Poverty in the Promised Land. Neighborliness, Resistance and Restoration*; 2024.

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Lied from Piano Trio in d minor, Op. 11 Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel
Gail Griffore, flute; Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello (1805-1847)
Connie Detjen, piano

*** Call to Worship**

Ewen Todd, Liturgist

One: With these people, in this space, we come to learn from God.

All: To discover how to share love and grace with the same abandon as God.

One: In this space, in these moments, we come to follow Jesus.

All: We would welcome others with joy and hope even as he received everyone who came to him.

One: In these moments, with these people, we come to bear the Spirit's bounty.

All: To be patient with those who aggravate us, even as the Spirit is kind in looking past our lives.

*** Hymn #308**

O God in Whom All Life Begins, vs. 1-3
[Noel]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: As children of God, we were made to live in joyful relationship with God and one another. Yet we know that we too often fall short in this regard. So we come each week to share our shortcomings and our misses, as well as our aspirations to be agents of grace. We pray together:

All: Loving God, you give us freedom. Yet fear tries to bind us. Idolatry and envy come chasing after us. Shiny things and divisive arguments try to trap us in corners and keep us locked away from one another. These are not the freedoms you have in mind for your children, loving God. We confess, we have submitted to them in the past, but no more. Inspire us to live with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

gentleness, and self-control as the center of our live. You set us free with the fruits of your Spirit. Give us the courage to enjoy this freedom. (Silent prayer) Amen. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Beloved children of God: hear and believe the good news, for freedom Christ has set us free to live anew. God's grace empowers us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. It is in this grace that we 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.*

*** Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Ewen Todd, Liturgist

God of justice and mercy, by your Holy Spirit inspire us through your Word. May the Word we hear read and proclaimed empower us to live more closely aligned with your values. Shape our lives according to your will. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott

First Scripture Reading

Galatians 5:13-14, 22-26

Ewen Todd, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Joshua 7: 1, 6-7, 10-13, 18-21

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

*The Economics of Justice.
Coveting & Idolatry: Devoted Things*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Special Music

*Andante Espressivo (Abridged) from Paino Trio in d minor
Trio*

Fanny Mendelssohn
Hensel (1805-1847)

Affirmation of Faith

in unison

From the Westminster Shorter Catechism, *PC(USA) Book of Confessions* 7.042, 7.079 – 7.081

Q. 42. What is the sum of the Ten Commandments?

A. The sum of the Ten Commandments is: to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves.

Q. 79. Which is the Tenth Commandment?

A. The Tenth Commandment is, “Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor’s wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor any thing that is thy neighbor’s.”

Q. 80. What is required in the Tenth Commandment?

A. The Tenth Commandment requireth full contentment with our own condition, with a right and charitable frame of spirit toward our neighbor and all that is his.

Q. 81. What is forbidden in the Tenth Commandment?

A. The Tenth Commandment forbiddeth all discontentment with our own estate, envying or grieving at the good of our neighbor, and all inordinate motions and affections to anything that is his.

Responding to the Word

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

Chorale, Op. 3, No. 1

Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel

Marlene Brewbaker, organ

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Ewen Todd, 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 #720**

Jesus Calls Us, vs. 1-4

[Galilee]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Allegro con spirito from Sonata in b minor
Trio

Jean-Baptiste Loeillet de Gant
(1688-1720)
arr: Béon

* Please rise in body or spirit

Ushers: Ron & Barbara Dorr, Morrie & Barbara Hoevel

This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour: Thank you to Parish Life for supplying birthday cake as we celebrate our August birthdays and to Edward Ennen for making coffee and washing the dishes.

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

Next Week: August 31, 2025

Ecclesiastes 5:10–13 & 1 Corinthians 11:17-26

The Call to Worship was written by the Rev. Thom Shuman and posted on Lectionary Liturgies at <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2022/06/alternate-texts-liturgy-wcommunion-for.html>. The Prayer of Confession is adapted from the United Methodist Discipleship Ministries. Online at: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning/dear-children-of-god-omg/third-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-lectionary-planning-notes/third-sunday-after-pentecost-year-c-liturgical-resources>

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Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager
Gabrielle Ghosh (she/her), Media Specialist

Music Notes

It is ironic that Fanny Mendelssohn Hensel's family took her Piano Trio in d minor to the publishers Breitkopf and Härtel after her death for they had all but forbidden her to publish works while she was alive. Fanny was Felix Mendelssohn's older sister, the family's first-born child. She enjoyed the same musical education and upbringing as her brother. Like Felix, Fanny showed prodigious musical ability as a child both as a pianist and as a budding composer. However, the prevailing attitudes of the time toward women limited her opportunities. Her father warned her that while Felix could become a professional musician if he chose, she could not do so herself. Except for Felix, her entire family opposed her dreams of a career as a concert pianist or even as a composer. Ironically, Felix, as well as many others, considered her an even better pianist than he.

In 1829, after a courtship of several years, Fanny married the painter Wilhelm Hensel who, unlike her parents, encouraged her to compose. A few of her songs and small piano pieces began to receive public performances.

The B minor sonata, published in 1912 by Alexandre Béon with attribution to Jean-Baptiste Loeillet de Gant (1688-c.1720), was actually written by an entirely different member of the same Flemish musical dynasty, one also christened Jean-Baptiste Loeillet, but generally known as John. The piece was originally published in about 1725 as a trio sonata for flute, oboe, and basso continuo in C minor. Béon's contribution as an editor was extensive. Apart from misattributing the composer, he also changed the work's instrumentation and key, realized the continuo part in florid fashion for the piano, and provided all manner of expressive suggestions for the interpreters.

James M. Keller, New York Philharmonic Program Annotator