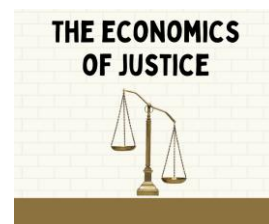


**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**August 31, 2025**  
**Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost**



**Gathering As a People of God**

**Preparation:** "One of the most persistent themes in Scripture is that there is enough. There is enough for everyone's need, but not for everyone's greed." Shane Claiborne, Foreword to *Poverty in the Promised Land. Neighborliness, Resistance and Restoration*; 2024.

The lover of money will not be satisfied with money, nor the lover of wealth with gain. This also is vanity. — Ecclesiastes 5:10

**Invitation to Our Shared Ministry**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Prelude**

*Consolation No. 3*  
Gail Lytle Lira, piano

Franz Liszt

**\* Call to Worship** (Psalm 133)

Keith Camann, Liturgist

One: How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

**All: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**

One: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

**All: For there the Lord ordained his blessing, life forevermore.**

**\* Hymn #361**

*O Christ, the Great Foundation*, vs. 1-4  
[Aurelia]

**Prayer of Confession**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We come before our God, who is full of compassion, to ask forgiveness and mercy. Let us pray together:

**All: God of Endless Mercy, we have too often been swallowed up by our greed and selfishness, desiring that which we do not have, filling our lives with things that do not save us. We have too often been swept away by the floods of our own making, polluting your creation, neglecting to be faithful stewards of the earth. We have too often attacked one another and led lives of violence, sending missiles instead of accepting refugees and ignoring your commandments. Lord have mercy, for we have sinned and fallen short of your glory. Christ have mercy, for we are broken and need your salvation. Lord have mercy upon us and hear us as we pray. (Silent prayer) Amen.**

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

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Friends, our help is in the name of the Lord who has heard our plea and answered our confession with mercy. It is in Christ's name that our sins 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**

Keith Camann, Liturgist

God of justice and mercy, open your Word to us. Give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation, that our eyes may be enlightened. May we know the hope to which we have been called and the work that lay ahead. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

### **Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

### **First Scripture Reading**

Ezekiel 34:1-4, 17-22

Keith Camann, Liturgist

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Scripture Reading**

1 Corinthians 11:17-26

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### **Sermon**

*The Economics of Justice.  
Greed*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

### **\* Affirmation of Faith**

in unison

From the Confession of Belhar, *PC(USA) Book of Confessions* (10.3)

**We believe**

- **that Christ's work of reconciliation is made manifest in the church as the community of believers who have been reconciled with God and with one another;**
- **that unity is, therefore, both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ; that through the working of God's Spirit it is a binding force, yet simultaneously a reality which must be earnestly pursued and sought: one which the people of God must continually be built up to attain;**
- **that this unity must become visible so that the world may believe that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin which Christ has already conquered, and**

**accordingly that anything which threatens this unity may have no place in the church and must be resisted;**

**• that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another.**

**Special Music**

*Sanctus*  
Gail Lytle Lira, pianist

Fauré  
arr: Jan Sanborn

**Responding to the Word**

**Offering**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*His Eye is on the Sparrow*  
Gail Lytle Lira, piano

arr: Victor Labenske

**\*Doxology #606**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

Keith Camann, 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 #772**

*Live Into Hope*, vs. 1-4  
[Truro]

**\* Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Postlude**

*Wherever I May Wander*  
Gail Lytle Lira, piano

arr: Anna Laura Page

**\* Please rise in body or spirit**

**Ushers:** Sally Belloli, Ewen Todd, David Horner

**This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour:** Thank you to Jane Dettore and Shirley Rumming for supplying refreshments, to Edward Ennen for making coffee, and to Wayne Scott for washing the dishes.

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

**Next Week:** September 7, 2025 Celebration of the Lord's Supper and Fall Kick-Off

**Scripture:** Deuteronomy 8:11-20 & Matthew 5: 23-24

**Education Hour:** Hear from the members of the mission team who visited the Simbolei Academy in Iten, Kenya in June. There will be something for all ages, including some African snacks!

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from words by the Rev. Stephen Fearing at Liturgy Link. Online at: <https://www.liturgylink.net/2018/09/24/confession-swallowed-up/>

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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