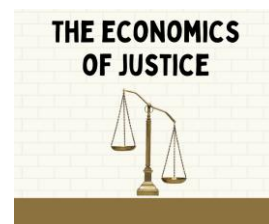


The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
September 7, 2025
Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost
Celebration of the Lord's Supper



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: "There comes a point where we need to stop just pulling people out of the river. We need to go upstream and find out why they're falling in." Attributed to Archbishop Desmond Tutu

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Allegro from Symphony IV
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

William Boyce

Setting the Table

Choral Introit

O Taste and See
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

Eleanor Daley

*** Call to Worship**

Patty Wilson, Liturgist

One: We gather as a people seeking community.

All: It is the Lord who gathers us here this morning.

One: We gather to hear words that challenge us to be better neighbors.

All: It is the Lord who gathers us here this morning.

One: We gather to hear words of promise and hope.

All: It is the Lord who gathers us here this morning.

One: We gather to sing praises to the one who is light in the darkness.

All: It is the Lord who gathers us here this morning.

One: We remember that in good times and hard times, love is always present.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord!

*** Hymn #301**

Let Us Build a House, vs. 1-4
[All Are Welcome]

Prayer of Confession

Patty Wilson, Liturgist

One: God is at work, nurturing our growth and showing us the ways that lead to life. God is at work, reconciling us to one another and teaching us the paths of love. We come before our God, who is full of compassion, to ask forgiveness and mercy. Let us pray together:

All: Loving God, you call us into community, teach us your ways, and bless us with abundant life. Yet we turn aside to follow other paths: we take the easy way out, listening to the world's call rather than your call to commitment. We quarrel with one another, letting differences divide us. We cherish our resentments, shutting off our hearts from forgiveness and reconciliation. We cling to petty jealousies, feeling we deserve more than we have. Forgive us when we wander from your love. Draw us into community with each other, and feed us with your grace, that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace. (Silent prayer) Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Patty Wilson, Liturgist

One: Christ is at work, hearing our confessions, forgiving our disobedience, and blessing us in love. Through Christ we are a new creation. Thanks be to God!

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

Patty Wilson, Liturgist

Generous God, you spoke the world into being; speak now to our hearts. By the power of your Spirit, make these ancient words live, that we might be shaped into your people, your covenantal community. Make us eager to bear your light and love into the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott
Ellen Hoekstra and Jerri Gillett

First Scripture Reading

Deuteronomy 8:11-18

Patty Wilson, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:23-24

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The Economics of Justice.
Living in Covenantal Community

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Anthem

We Are Called
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

arr. Mark Hayes

Responding to the Word

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

O Bread of Life from Heaven

Heinrich Isaak

***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 #515**

I Come with Joy, vs. 1-5

[Dove of Peace]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

*** Benediction Response** Hymn #853 *We Are Marching in the Light of God*

[Siyahamba]

Postlude

Siyahamba

arr: Vicki Collinsworth

* Please rise in body or spirit

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

This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour: Thank you to members of the Parish Life, Mission, Adult Education and Christian Education - Children & Youth for helping with the snacks for this morning and to Edward Ennen for taking care of the coffee.

Education Hour: Hear from 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!

Next Week: September 14, 2025

Scripture: 1 Kings 17:7- 16 & Ephesians 2:14-22

Education Hour

The Prayer of Confession is adapted from Following Other Paths posted on Re:Worship <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/01/confession-following-other-paths.html>

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Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
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