

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
September 21, 2025
Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Gathering As a People of God

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Aria

Flor Peters

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Lighting the Candles

Choral Introit

Enter His Presence

C.O. Beck

PCO Chancel Choir

Shelby Laird, director

*** Call to Worship**

Siri Rainone, Liturgist

One: On this morning we put aside distractions and attend to the voice of God.

All: We gather as a community to listen for God above the noise of the world.

One: On this morning we share the gifts of our voices and our hands.

All: We gather as a community to ring and sing our praise to God.

One: On this morning we bring all that is weighing on our hearts and minds.

All: We gather as a community to seek God through prayer.

One: On this morning we celebrate that God is our help, our refuge and our redeemer.

All: We gather as a community to be anchored in the word of God.

*** Hymn #821**

My Life Flows On, vs. 1-4

[How Can I Keep from Singing]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We are called to turn to God with true and honest hearts. As we confess our sins, we also acknowledge God's generosity and grace. We trust in God, whose healing makes us whole. Let us pray together:

All: Gracious God, you call us to step out in faith, trusting in you for all things. We respond to your command but then sink in doubt and fear. We hide from the challenges of bold discipleship. We forget that you are our rock and refuge and it is in you we have our trust. Forgive us, we pray, when we confess with our lips but do not believe in our hearts.

Help us to practice our faith in all circumstances. Though we are distracted by noise all around, help us to be still so that we might better hear your voice. We pray in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Our God sees all, knows all, forgives all, restores all through our Lord Jesus Christ. We are made a new creation through Christ - the old has passed away. This is indeed good news!
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

Siri Rainone, Liturgist

Still us, O God, so that we might hear your voice, and only your voice, in these words read and proclaimed. May the Holy Spirit speak into our hearts and minds. May we absorb your love and grace, deepening our faith and our commitment to be your servant people. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Rev. Dan Lewis

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 46

Siri Rainone, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

Rev. Dan Lewis

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Get to...Got to

Rev. Dan Lewis

Anthem

Blessed Assurance
PCO Handbell Choir
Irene Shutt, director

arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Responding to the Word

Minute for Mission

Cass Mission Trip & CROP Walk

Kent Workman

Offering

Invitation

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Offertory

Be Thou My Vision
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

arr. John Rutter

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Siri Rainone, 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 #432**

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord, vs. 1-4
[Repton]

*** Benediction**

Rev. Dan Lewis

Postlude

Toccata in Seven
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

John Rutter

* Please rise in body or spirit

Today, we welcome the Rev. Dan Lewis to our pulpit. A graduate of DePauw University and Princeton Theological Seminary, Dan has served the church for four decades as a pastor in a variety of congregational settings as well as the larger denomination in specialized ministry capacities. His spouse, the Rev. Jennifer B Lewis, is the Visioning and Connecting Leader for the Presbytery of Wabash Valley (northern Indiana). They have four practically perfect grandchildren and a mostly adorable goldendoodle.

Ushers: Jeff & Michele Arbour, Gary & Trudy Sturk

This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour: It is birthday cake Sunday! Thank you to Parish Life for providing the birthday cake as we celebrate September birthdays. Thanks to Tom Schaberg for making coffee and Gary VanKempfen for washing the dishes.

Education Hour:

- Elementary Education in Room 116
- Middle School & High School in Middle School Classroom with Kathi Cook
- Intergenerational Bible Study: *On hiatus this week*
- Adult Education: Economics of Justice led by Ewen Todd and Sean Clark in Room 108

MUSIC NOTES

Contemporary English composer and conductor Sir John Rutter is best known for his large body of Christmas carol arrangements and sacred choral music. Lesser known are Rutter's instrumental works including several pieces for solo organ. The postlude for this morning's service is a jubilant new take on the traditional organ toccata. Written in septuple meter (seven beats per measure), the unusual rhythmic pattern provides the work with a fresh energy somewhat reminiscent of Dave Brubeck's jazz classic *Take Five*.

Next Week: September 28, 2025 We welcome the Rev. Dan Lewis to the PCO pulpit.

Scripture: Psalm 148 & Exodus 17:8-13

The Prayer of Confession was inspired from words in the Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2 © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press.

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