

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
September 28, 2025
Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost



Gathering As a People of God

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Nadine Roya, liturgist

Prelude

Allegro from Sonata in C Minor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Giovanni Battista Pescetti
(c.1704 - c.1766)

Lighting the Candles

Choral Introit

O Sing to the Lord
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

Eleanor Daley

*** Call to Worship**

Nadine Roya, liturgist

One: See what love God has given us, that we should be called children of God.

All: We are beloved children of God.

One: When the burden is heavy, we will be given rest.

All: For we are beloved children of God.

One: When the chaos of the world swirls around us.

All: Remember we are beloved children of God.

One: Let us love not in word or speech, but in deed and truth.

All: Let the world know that all are beloved children of God.

*** Hymn #17**

Sing Praise to God, You Heavens!, vs. 1-4
[Psalm 148, Wie Lieblich Ist Der Maien]

Prayer of Confession

Rev. Dan Lewis

One: God upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down. Therefore, let us confess our sin with every confidence that we will be lifted up. Let us pray together.

All: Lord, we can carry so many burdens in our lives. Some of us are weary from unceasing responsibility and need help lightening our load. Some are weary from seeking cures for what ails them. Still others find no welcome in the world and bear the burden of loneliness. We confess we confound your vision for our common life. Forgive our blind striving, our stifled concern, the judgments we cast on others. Forgive us when we are presumptuous about your will. Cultivate in us a spirit of trust and faithfulness, for you are our hope for deliverance. Silent Prayer. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Rev. Dan Lewis

One: Friends, hear the good news of our faith: God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, showing compassion to all. We are forgiven and freed.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Amen.

One: Forgiven and freed, let us rise up with joy and share our peace with one another. 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

Nadine Roya, 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 146

Nadine Roya, liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Exodus 17:8-13

Rev. Dan Lewis

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Heavy Lifting

Rev. Dan Lewis

Anthem

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

PCO Chancel Choir

Shelby Laird, director

Responding to the Word

Minute for Gratitude

50th Anniversary Catholic Charities Refugee Services Kent Workman

Offering

Rev. Dan Lewis

Invitation

Offertory

Moderato

[Sonata in C Minor]

G.B. Pescetti

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Nadine Roya, 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** #749

Come! Live in the Light!, vs. 1-3

[We Are Called]

* **Benediction**

Rev. Dan Lewis

Postlude

Presto

G.B. Pescetti

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

* Please rise in body or spirit

We welcome to our pulpit today the Rev. Dan Lewis. 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: Barbara & Morrie Hoevel, Ron & Barbara Dorr

This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour: Thanks to Sandy Detrisac for providing this morning's refreshments, and to Edward Ennen for brewing the coffee and washing the dishes.

Education Hour

- Elementary Education in Room 116
- Middle School & High School Education in Middle School Classroom with Catherine Holdway.
- Intergenerational Bible Study - on hiatus this week
- Adult Education: Economics of Justice led by Ewen Todd and Sean Clark in Room 108

Next Week: October 5, 2025 World Communion Sunday; Celebration of the Lord's Supper

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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Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director
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