

**The Presbyterian Church of Okemos**  
**October 12, 2025**  
**Eighteenth Sunday After Pentecost**



**Gathering As a People of God**

**Preparation:** Heidelberg Catechism Question 1

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him. — PC(USA) Book of Confessions, 4.001.

**Invitation to Our Shared Ministry**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Prelude**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*  
Laurie Harkema, organist

Michael Burkhardt

**Lighting the Candles**

**Choral Introit**

*We Praise Thee, O God*  
PCO Chancel Choir  
Shelby Laird, director

Joseph Barnby

**\* Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 100)

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

**All: Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**

One: Know that the Lord is God.

**All: It is God who made us. We are God's people and the sheep of his pasture.**

One: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and God's courts with praise.

**All: Give thanks to God; bless God's name.**

One: For the Lord is good;

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever and God's faithfulness to all generations.**

**\* Hymn # 14**

*For the Beauty of the Earth*, vs. 1-5  
[Dix]

## Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Lord says, "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine." It is with that confidence that we turn our hearts to God, confessing what has separated us from God and each other.

**All: Merciful God, while we acknowledge that we belong to you in body, mind and spirit, we sometimes forget to live with this knowledge at the center of our lives. Instead of embracing a new path ahead, we stand on the edge hesitating to take the first step. We long for the comfortable and familiar, rather than recognizing the new creation we are called to be. We too often fail to hear and recognize your voice amidst the noise of the world. Forgive us. Turn us home to you and your welcome embrace. Set our feet on your path of grace and love. Help us to live with a sense of belonging to you at our core. Silent prayer. 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

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

Holy God, the words of Scripture are inspired by you and given life through the power of your Holy Spirit. Though they may have been written long ago, they speak into our world and lives today. By your Spirit, open us to hear these words. Etch them in our hearts so we may live as your people. Amen.

## Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott

### Special Music

*All Things Bright and Beautiful*

John Rutter

Youth Instrumental Trio

adapted by Sarah Mayhew

Connor Haskel, Evan Haskel & Lizzie Conroy-Krutz

### First Scripture Reading

Isaiah 43:1-7

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, Liturgist

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

### Second Scripture Reading

Romans 14:7-9

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*We Belong to God*

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Affirmation of Faith**

PCO Mission Statement

in unison

**As members of The Presbyterian Church of Okemos,  
We believe that in life, in death, and life beyond death,  
We belong to God.**

**The Church exists to invite everyone to join the lifelong journey of faith that is life in  
Jesus Christ.**

**Through Worship that glorifies God,**

**Study that seeks to understand God,**

**Service to a world that needs God,**

**We desire to build a network of caring relationships**

**Between families, friends, and strangers**

**By offering welcome, healing, justice and peace to all in the name of Jesus Christ.**

**Special Music**

*Joyous Spirit*

Valerie Stephenson

PCO Handbell Choir

Irene Shutt, director

## **Responding to the Word**

**Minute for Mission**

Alternative Christmas Market

Jayne Zuhlke

**Offering**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**Invitation**

**Offertory**

*Litany from Suite in G*

Charles Callahan

Laurie Harkema, organist

**\*Doxology #606**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People**

Jeff Conroy-Krutz, 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 #463**

*How Firm a Foundation*, vs. 1-5

[Foundation]

**\* Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

**\* Benediction Response**

*Go Forth in Peace*  
PCO Chancel Choir  
Shelby Laird, director

C.O.Beck

**Postlude**

*The Rejoicing from Suite in G*  
Laurie Harkema, organist

Charles Callahan

\* Please rise in body or spirit

**Ushers:** Gary & Trudy Sturk, Jeff & Michele Arbour

**This Morning's Fellowship Team and Education Hour:** Thank you to Kelly and Scott Locke for providing snacks this morning. Thanks to Edward Ennen for making coffee and Dave Rumminger for washing the dishes.

**Education Hour**

**Elementary Education** in Room 116

**Youth & Adults:** Walk the new PCO Prayer Path constructed by the Green Team and the Youth Group. Prayer and meditation sheets will be available that will guide you to marked spots on the path, where you can stop and pray a psalm. For those with mobility issues or who prefer to remain indoors, prayer stations are set-up in the Sanctuary, the Chapel and the Board Room.

**Next Week:** October 19, 2025

**Scripture:** Ezra 3:8-13 & Colossians 3:12-17

**Education Hour:**

**Elementary Education** in Room 116

**Intergenerational Bible Study (Middle School, High School and Adults):** Colaborate New Testament Series with Roy Meland in the Board Room

**Adults:** Town Hall to learn more about PCO Ministry & Committee Structure (11:30 - 12:15 pm)

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Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director  
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director  
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