

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
November 11, 2025
Twentieth-Second Sunday After Pentecost



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: “ We are stronger and more robust when enmeshed with others in community. But in our age of autonomy, efficiency, boundaries and self-care, we too often deprioritize, if not overlook altogether, the wellspring of strength and meaning that comes from obligation. For people to really know us, we need to show up consistently. Over time, what starts out as obligation becomes less about something we have to do and more about something we want to do, something that we can’t imagine living without. The spiritual teacher Ram Dass once wrote that “we’re all just walking each other home.” – Author Brad Stulberg, NY Times Guest Essay, May 20, 2023.

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Little Prelude and Intermezzo
Maestoso, Andante sostenuto
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Hermann Schroeder
(1904 – 1984)

Lighting the Candles

Choral Introit

Come and fill our hearts
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

*** Call to Worship** (adapted from Ephesians 4)

Mitch Marcus, Liturgist

One: As faithful followers of Christ, we are called to conduct ourselves with all humility, gentleness, and patience.

All: We accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties us together.

One: We are one body and through one spirit, and God called us to live in one hope.

All: We accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties us together.

One: There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and parent of us all, who is over all, through all, and in all.

All: We accept each other with love, and make an effort to preserve the unity of the Spirit with the peace that ties us together.

*** Hymn #761**

Called as Partners in Christ’s Service, vs. 1-4
[Beecher]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: We turn to God in praise and prayer not from a position of power and strength, but from the broken edges of our lives, from the broken edges of the world and the church. We offer our prayers of confession, trusting in the One who is reconciling all things.

All: Merciful God, we confess that the world suffers because of our sin. We use power against others for our own benefit. We misuse the natural resources of the earth in carelessness and greed. By our habits and apathies, others are subjected to desolation, even despair. Forgive us for making enemies and exiles of those you call us to love and serve. Forgive us for being complicit in causing others to grieve and to wander without rest. We wait on you, O God. We hope in you. You alone can restore all things, even us. Silent prayer. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Hear the sound of love poured out: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. In the name of Christ I declare that our story is known, our sins are forgiven, and our life is made new.

All: Thanks be to God! 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

Mitch Marcus, Liturgist

Holy and merciful God, we have come to hear your word. Break down in us all that resists your will and plant in us a willingness to turn toward you and be your disciples. By your Spirit, come to us, now, in ancient texts, in everyday visions, in the need of our neighbor; we pray in the name of Jesus, our light. Amen.

Children's Sermon & Time of Wonder

Pastor Lisa Schrott

First Scripture Reading

Job 2:7-13

Mitch Marcus, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Special Music

The Lord is My Shepherd

Cathy Moglebust

PCO Handbell Choir

Irene Shutt, director

Lizzie Conroy-Krutz, violin

Second Scripture Reading

Philemon 1:1-7 (The Message)

Pastor Lisa Schrott

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Belong to God: Building a Network of Caring Relationships
Pastor Lisa Schrott

Anthem

Let Us Join Our Hearts Together
PCO Handbell Choir
Irene Shutt, director
PCO Chancel Choir
Shelby Laird, director

Joseph Martin

Responding to the Word

Minute for Stewardship

Network of Caring Relationships

Barbara Fretwell-Cooke

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

Allegretto
[Little Prelude and Intermezzo]
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Schroeder

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Mitch Marcus, 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 #316**

Where Charity and Love Prevail, vs. 1-5
[Twenty-Fourth]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a meeting of the congregation following worship for the purpose of electing Elders, Deacons, and members of the Endowment Committee. We encourage all to remain for this brief meeting; however, only members are eligible to vote. For those joining us via Zoom, the link is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84065852997>

Postlude

Poco Vivace

Schroeder

[Little Prelude and Intermezzo]

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

* Please rise in body or spirit

Ushers: Gary & Trudy Sturk, Jeff & Michele Arbour

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thanks to Michele Arbour and Mickey Martin for supplying refreshments, to Tom Schaberg for making coffee and to Dave Rumminger for washing the dishes.

Education Hour:

Elementary Education in Room 116

Middle School, High School & Adults: Congregational Meeting followed by a time of intentional fellowship as we continue to build a network of caring connections.

Next Week: November 16, 2025; Dedication Sunday; Remember to bring your Pledge Cards and Time and Talent Sheets.

Scripture: Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Education Hour:

Elementary Education in Room 116

Middle School Education in Room 107

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

Adult Ed: *Dialogues in Faith & Science* - Pastor Lisa will lead a short discussion on how the brain perceives God and Ewen Todd will present a book review of Francis Collins' *The Language of God*.

Our Prayer of Confession, Promise of the Gospel and Prayer of Illumination this morning are adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2*, Westminster John Knox Press; 2013.

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Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Shelby Laird, Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
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