

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
August 9, 2026
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost



At PCO we strive to be a faithful, open, and inclusive community. We welcome the full participation of all people of any age, ability, gender identity, race, ethnicity and sexual orientation.

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Aaron Punt

Prelude

Chromatic Fugue
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organ

Johann Pachelbel

*** Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 105)

Julie Boyer, Liturgist

One: O give thanks to the Lord; call on his name; make known his deeds among the peoples. Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works. Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

All: **Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually. Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles and the judgments he has uttered. He is the Lord our God; his judgments are in all the earth. Praise the Lord!**

*** Hymn #42**

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure, vs. 1-4
[Winchester New]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Aaron Punt

One: As we come before the Lord today, let us examine our hearts, confess our sins, and seek God's grace and forgiveness. Let us pray.

All: **Most holy God, we acknowledge that we have fallen short of the glory to which you call us. Like the brothers of Jacob, we fail to love, support, and protect those that we should. In our pettiness and jealousy, we plot against our neighbors and our fellow believers. From our own woundedness, we seek to hurt others. From our insecurity, we seek to undermine those around us. We do not love as Christ taught us to love, nor do we serve others with humility as he taught us to serve. Forgive us when our hubris is too great and our faith too small to love others with the unconditional love that we receive from you, and help us to amend our ways. In Christ's name we ask for your forgiveness. Amen.**

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Aaron Punt

One: Beloved, hear the good news: God knows us and forgives us and leads us in the way of everlasting life. Thanks be to God!

All: **Thanks be to God for the new creation we are in Christ.**

One: It is as a forgiven people that we extend the peace of Christ to each other. May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you. Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.**

*** Act of Praise #581**

Gloria Patri

Prayer of Illumination

Julie Boyer, Liturgist

Most holy God, as we turn to your Word, we seek your guidance, direction, and illumination. Send your Holy Spirit upon us, that the truth of your word might be revealed to us. In the name of Christ, the living word, we pray. Amen.

Children's Sermon and Time of Wonder

Pastor Aaron Punt

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 105: 1-6, 16-22, 45b

Julie Boyer, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Second Scripture Reading

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Pastor Aaron Punt

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Desolation and Consolation

Pastor Aaron Punt

Special Music

Great is the Lord

Michael & Deborah Smith

PCO Summer Pick-Up Choir

Arr. Ed Lojeski

Shelby Laird, Director

Offering

Pastor Aaron Punt

Invitation

Offertory

Praeludium in g minor

Johann Krieger

*Doxology #606

*Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Julie Boyer, Liturgist

One: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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.

*** Hymn #39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness, vs. 1-3

[Faithfulness]

*** Charge & Benediction**

Pastor Aaron Punt

Postlude

Fantasia in d minor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organist

Johann Pachelbel

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Flowers: The flowers beautifying our sanctuary today have been arranged by Edward Ennen.

Ushers: Jeff & Michele Arbour, Gary & Trudy Sturk

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Barbara Scott for supplying snacks and to Edward Ennen for making coffee and washing dishes.

Education Hour is on Summer Break. Enjoy an extended time of fellowship this morning.

Next Week: August 16, 2026

Scripture: Psalm 133, Genesis 45:1-15

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Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott (she/her), Pastor/Head of Staff
Rev. Aaron Punt, Associate Pastor
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Shelby Laird (she, her), Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
Anna Thiel, Office Manager
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