

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
August 16, 2026
Twelfth 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

Prelude on *Thaxted*
Marlene Brewbaker, Organ

Gustav Holst
Arr. Charles Callahan

*** Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 133)

Lucas Meland, Liturgist

One: How very good and pleasant it is when families live together in unity!

All: It is like precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard of Aaron.

One: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

All: For there the Lord ordained the blessing upon us, life forevermore.

One: Let us worship God!

*** Hymn #386**

Come, Worship God, vs. 1-4
[O Quanta Qualia]

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: Our source of deliverance, Christ, calls us to faith, while we seek our own security. He teaches us to trust him, yet we don't take that risk. He expects total commitment, and we think in terms of percentage. Time after time we turn our backs on your grace, serving our idols and forsaking our Christ. We rely on your promise in him to redeem us. We are dependent on him who can intercede for us. O God, in Christ have mercy upon us. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Aaron Punt

One: Beloved, hear the good news: God meets us in our desolation and grants us his mercy and provision, bringing us the consolation of his redeeming love. For the sake of Christ, we are forgiven and made new. 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.

Prayer of Illumination

Lucas Meland, Liturgist

Lord of all, as we turn to your word today, we seek your consolation. Guide us from our places of need, want, and hardship toward your provision, blessing, and plenty. Lead us from our desolation into your consolation. By the Holy Spirit and through your word, bless us with a portion of your knowledge and wisdom, that we may be fed in mind, heart, and spirit. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 67

Lucas Meland, Liturgist

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Children's Sermon and Time of Wonder

Pastor Aaron Punt

Second Scripture Reading

Genesis 45: 1-15

Pastor Aaron Punt

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Desolation and Consolation, Part II

Pastor Aaron Punt

Special Music

Sonata No. 1 in D for Trumpet and Organ

Henry Purcell

Allegro pomposo, Allegro ma non troppo

Micah Laird, trumpet

Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Offering

Pastor Aaron Punt

Invitation

Offertory

Interlude from Dioclesian

Henry Purcell

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Lucas Meland, 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 #341

O God, Show Mercy to Us, vs. 1, 2
[Psalm 67] Thaxted

* Charge & Benediction

Pastor Aaron Punt

Postlude

Trumpet Voluntary in D
Micah Laird, trumpet
Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Henry Purcell

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Ushers: Brett & Lynn Cone, Joel Major, Dave Horner

Flowers: The flowers beautifying our sanctuary today are from MaryLou & Frank Hatfield.

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to the Parish Life Committee for supplying birthday cake to celebrate members and friends who were born in August. Thank you to Edward Ennen for preparing the coffee and to Joel Major for washing the dishes.

This morning's prayer of the people was authored by Christine Longhurst. Used with permission.

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

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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
Jacob Meland, Media Specialist