

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
September 20, 2026
Seventeenth 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.

Preparation: “Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice. Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence continually.” Psalm 105:3-4

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Aaron Punt

Prelude

Prelude on *Jerusalem*
Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Charles Callahan

Introit

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

Joseph Barnby

*** Call to Worship** (adapted from Psalm 145)

Jim Boyer, Liturgist

One: I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

All: Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One: One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts. They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, we will meditate.

All: They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and we will declare your greatness. They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. Let us praise the Lord!

*** Hymn #270**

O Lord, You Are My God and King, vs. 1-3
[Psalm 145, Jerusalem]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: For the wages of sin is death,

All: but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Come let us confess our sin before God.

One: Come, let us confess our sin before God.

All: Gracious God, you invite us to come before you just as we are; to lay the sins of our hearts before you and to ask your forgiveness. We do this today. Jesus taught us to pray to you, asking you to forgive us as we forgive others, yet we are often slow to do so. We struggle to let bygones be bygones and to extend to others the same grace we have received from you. Help us to have a heart more like Christ: seeking justice, but rich in mercy; longing for righteousness, but ready to extend grace. By your Spirit, help us to repent of our sins, including the sin of wrath. Lead us to live as Jesus taught us to, loving you with all that we

are, and loving our neighbor in the same way that we would like to be loved. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Hear the good news of Psalm 145: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. By the grace of God, in Christ Jesus we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God!

One: May the peace of our Lord Jesus 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

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Aaron Punt

Holy Lord, open our hearts and minds this day that we may both see, and seek, a renewed faith in you through the Word read and your message proclaimed. In Christ's name we pray: Amen.

Children's Sermon and Time of Wonder

Pastor Aaron Punt

Scripture Reading

Jonah 3:10-4:11

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Jonah and the No Good, Very Bad Day

Pastor Aaron Punt

Special Music

Grazioso

Arnold Sherman

PCO Handbell Choir

Irene Shutt, Director

Minute for Mission

World Communion Sunday Offering

Kent Workman

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

Awake, My Heart

Jane Marshall

PCO Chancel Choir

Shelby Laird, Director

*Awake my heart, and render to God thy sure defender,
Thy Maker, thy preserver, a song of love and fervor.*

*Confirm my deeds and guide me: My day, with thee beside me,
Beginning, middle, ending, will all be upward trending.*

*My heart shall be thy dwelling, with joy and gladness swelling;
Thy word my nurture giv'n to bring me on toward heaven.*

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Jim 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 #436**

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us, vs. 1-3

[O Quanta Qualia]

*** Charge & Benediction**

Pastor Aaron Punt

Postlude

Allegro from Symphony IV

William Boyce

Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Congregational Meeting

The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for September 20, 2026. The purpose of the meeting is to act on a recommendation from the Personnel Committee to revise the Terms of Call for Associate Pastor Aaron Punt. The meeting will be in person and via Zoom at

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

** Please rise in body or spirit*

Ushers: Barbara & Ron Dorr, Brett & Lynette Cone

This Morning's Fellowship Team: It is birthday cake Sunday! We will celebrate our September birthdays. Thank you Parish Life for supplying the cake, to Edward Ennen for preparing the coffee and to Gary VanKempen for washing the dishes.

Education Hour returns following worship

Elementary Education in Room 116 led by Barbara Fretwell-Cooke and Jane Dettore

Middle School in the Middle School Room with Kathi Cook

High School Youth and Adults in Fellowship Hall: Simbolei Academy, Iten, Kenya update.

Information on June, 2027 trip.

Music Notes

Our handbell choir will be performing *Grazioso* today, a beautiful composition by renowned handbell composer Arnold Sherman, who passed away earlier this year. At the National Handbell Convention in July, attendees voted *Grazioso* among the four most beautiful pieces ever written for handbells—a fitting tribute to Sherman’s remarkable gift for creating music that touches the heart. We are honored to share this special piece with our congregation as we celebrate his legacy through music.

Next Week September 27, 2026; MSU UKirk leading worship

Scripture: Micah 6:6-8 and Mark 1:16-20

Education Hour: MSU UKirk will share their programming and outreach activities.

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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