



The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
October 4, 2026
Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
World Communion Sunday
Worship led by the PCO Mission Committee

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

Lord Jesus Christ, Thou Living Bread
 Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Johann Pachelbel

Introit

O Praise the Lord, All Ye Nations
 PCO Chancel Choir
 Shelby Laird, director

Donovan V. Klotzbeacher

*** Call to Worship**

Eunice Creswell

One: What does the Holy One require of us?

All: To do justice, to love kindness and to walk humbly with God.

One: Let us worship God.

*** Gathering Prayer (in unison)**

Eunice Creswell

Mighty and merciful God, lover of justice and equity, you call us to support the weak, to help those who suffer, and to honor all people. By the power of your Holy Spirit, make us advocates for your justice and instruments of your peace, so that all may be reconciled in your beloved community; through Jesus Christ Our Savior. Amen

* Hymn #766

The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound, vs. 1-4

[McKee]

Prayer of Confession

Ellen Hoekstra

One: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

All: Loving God, through Jesus Christ you taught us, "where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Yet we continue to put our faith in earthly treasures, hoarding up possessions that moth and rust will destroy, clinging to power and privilege whenever we can. Set us free from greed and fear. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Teach us to trust in you alone; through Jesus Christ, our true redeemer.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Kent Workman

One: Our God is slow to anger, quick to forgive, and abiding in steadfast love. Believe the Good News this day: in Christ Jesus we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen!

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

Judi Harris

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon and Time of Wonder

Kent Workman

Scripture Readings

Leviticus 19: 13-18

Ellen Hoekstra

Proverbs 3: 27-30

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading

Mark 12: 28-31

Kent Workman

Romans 13: 8-10

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Who is Our Neighbor?

Kent Workman

Anthem

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Marianne Forman

PCO Chancel Choir

Shelby Laird, director

*Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, Thou fount of life, Thou light of men,
From the best bliss that earth imparts, We turn unfilled to Thee again.
Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood; Thou savest those that on Thee call;
To them that seek Thee, Thou art good, To them that find Thee, all in all.
We taste Thee, O Thou living Bread, And long to feast upon Thee still;
We drink of Thee, the Fountain-head, And thirst our souls from Thee to fill.
O Jesus, ever with us stay, Make all our moments calm and bright;
Chase the dark night of sin away; Shed o'er the world Thy holy light.
Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, We turn unfilled to Thee again.*

Offering & Collection of World Communion Sunday Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

The World Communion Offering of the PC(USA) supports racial and gender justice, peacemaking efforts, global witness, and nurturing ecumenical and interfaith relations.

Offertory

Communion in Christ

Todd Kendall

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastor Aaron Punt

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give both thanks and praise.

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Communion of the People: Neighbor to Neighbor

We will serve each other as neighbors this morning. Please take a piece of bread and pass the basket to your neighbor. Hold onto your bread until all have received it. We will share the Bread of Life together. The bread is gluten free, soy free, dairy free and nut free.

Please take a cup with juice from the tray and pass the tray to your neighbor. Hold onto your cup until all have received it. We will share the Cup of Salvation together. Place your empty cup in the rack in the pew.

Communion Prayer

Pastor Aaron Punt

* **Hymn** (insert) *O God, by Your Mercy, We Come to This Place*, vs. 1-5
[St. Denio]

* Charge & Benediction

Kent Workman

Postlude

Postlude on *St. Denio*
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Setting by Michael Burkhardt

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

Ushers: Judi Harris, Beth Layhe, Jill Tribell, David Cook, Jack Harkema

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Jane Bobay for supplying our snacks today and to Edward Ennen for washing dishes.

Education Hour

Elementary Education with Barbara Fretwell Cook and Jane Detorre in Room 116

Middle School Education with Elsie Punt in Room 107

Confirmation Class led by Pastor Lisa Schrott in Room 109

Intergenerational Bible Study for High School Youth and Adults in the Board Room

Adult Education – Discussion on “Who is My Neighbor?” in Fellowship Hall

Next Week October 11, 2026

Scripture: Exodus 32:1-14

Today's liturgy was curated by Jonathan Hehn, OSL, Presbyterian Association of Musicians (PAM) Board Member, Choral Program Director and Organist, Term Assistant Professor of Sacred Music University of Notre Dame and provided by the Office of Special Offerings, PC(USA).

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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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