

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 10, 2017

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Holy God,
you call us to righteousness and light.
Teach us the undivided law of love,
that we may love your children even as you do,
love you with all our will and strength,
and find our freedom in this blessed service,
taught to us in word and deed
by Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens Wilbur Held

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Love does no wrong to a neighbor;
love is the fulfillment of the law.
Let us worship God.

*SONG OF PRAISE Brethren, We Have Met to Worship 396

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**Lord God,
while we were still slaves to sin,
you died for our salvation.
Yet we still worship the false gods of the world,
forgetting that you are Lord.
Loving worldly wealth,
we have not loved you with our whole heart
nor loved our neighbors as ourselves.
Trusting worldly strength,
we have not trusted your word
nor followed the Word-made-flesh.
Forgiving by worldly norms,
we have not shown mercy to others
as you have shown mercy to us.
Forgive us yet again, we pray in Christ's name. Amen.**
(Time of silent reflection)

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Who is in a position to condemn?

**Only Christ. And Christ died for us; Christ rose for us;
Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us.**

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Glory Be to the Father

581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Mike Girdner

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 12:1-14

Page No. 51

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Sea of Mercy

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:15-20

Page No. 799

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Power of Two or Three

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

God, How Can We Forgive

445

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that God
brings justice to the oppressed
and gives bread to the hungry.**

**We believe that God
frees the prisoner
and restores sight to the blind.**

**We believe that God
supports the downtrodden,
protects the stranger,
helps orphans and widows,
and blocks the path of the ungodly.**

Adapted from the Confession of Belhar

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY Partita on "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light": Cantabile
John Behnke

*DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love 203

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE
CHORAL BENEDICTION I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

*POSTLUDE Fantasia John Behnke

*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for September 17: Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35.

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for September is toilet paper. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

Ushers for today's service are Kirk and Carl Forthman.

MPC is collecting school supplies and non-perishable reasonably healthy snacks for Jackson Elementary, our neighborhood school. A list of needed supplies is in the hallway.

SUNDAY**September 10**

- 9:30 A.M. – Potluck Breakfast
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:05 P.M. – Worship Meeting

TUESDAY**September 12**

- 5:00 P.M. – Mission & Evangelism Meeting

WEDNESDAY**September 13**

- 3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
- 5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir
- 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

SUNDAY**September 17**

- 9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
- 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service
- 12:00 P.M. – Deacons Meeting
- 5:30 P.M. – Stewardship Meeting