

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

12th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2019

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Holy God,
you alone are worthy of honor and praise.
Open our eyes to see the world as you see it.
Give us the wisdom to witness your presence
in all people.
Transform us in love,
grow us in our faith,
call us to love with a full heart
and to share your promises with all people. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Präludium

Rudolf Bibl

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us to service,
rather than honor.
God call us to love the unknown,
rather than the familiar.
We come to this time of worship,
trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,
who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Hymnal, No. 267

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Though we have heard that the humble ones will be exalted,
we live as if we did not know your Word.
We seek power and privilege over humility and compassion.
We climb ladders of success rather than humble steps of justice.
We still wrestle for seats of honor,
and we still try to limit the guest list at your table.
Forgive us in Christ, our model of true humanity,
and convict us to reflect the depth of your love.**
(Time of silent reflection)

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God.

*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

Hymnal, No. 581

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

John Beck

SCRIPTURE READING

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Page No. 979

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 81:1, 10-16

Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

**I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of
Egypt. Open your mouth wide and I will fill it.**

“But my people did not listen to my voice; Israel would not submit to me.

**So I gave them over to their stubborn hearts, to follow their own
counsels.**

O that my people would listen to me, that Israel would walk in my ways!

**Then I would quickly subdue their enemies, and turn my hand
against their foes.**

Those who hate the Lord would cringe before him, and their doom would last
forever.

**I would feed you with the finest of the wheat, and with honey from
the rock I would satisfy you.”**

ANTHEM

Be Still and Know that I am God

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Page No. 849

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

The Struggle With Humility

Tracy L. Evans

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

It is Well with My Soul

John Purifoy

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymnal, No. 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

SEALING THE WORD—CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

COMMUNION SONG

We Gather Here in Jesus' Name

Hymnal, No. 510

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...joining the song of the universal church and the heavenly choir:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

...Christ is the bread of life.

**When we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the saving death of our risen Lord
until he comes in glory.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE
COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me Hymnal, No. 543

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE
CHORAL BENEDICTION Blest Be the Tie that Binds

*POSTLUDE This Little Light of Mine Bradley Sowash

*Please rise in body or spirit.

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 8: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1; 1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19.

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for September is **pasta and pasta sauce**. 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 Lisa & Larry Upton.

Communion servers for today's service are Melissa Gill, Eileen Burke, Carl and Julie Forthman.

Kids' Club is coming! We may be getting a bit of a late start this year, but it will happen. Stay tuned!

We are in need of volunteers for our wonderful Wednesday program. We need drivers to pick up at schools, folks in the kitchen to cook and/or clean, friends to help with homework and just adults who like to hang out with our great kids. If you have some time each Wednesday, or could fill in occasionally, please let Tracy Evans or Karen Girdner know.

Please help us gather the following items recommended by our own educator – Jo Beth Bailey. These are things that teachers constantly need and run out of, because they don't get contributed as much as more conventional supplies for students: Hand sanitizer; Bleach wipes; Lysol spray; Baby wipes; Kleenex; Paper towels; Coffee filters (used as snack bowls); Card stock – 8 ½ by 11" - white & colors; Painter's tape and Packing tape. There are lists on the bulletin board in the hallway to help you shop. We will collect your contributions and deliver them to Kennedy and Jackson Schools. You can also, of course, contribute cash or a check; please annotate it for "School Supplies."

First Presbyterian Church of Norman is excited to welcome the Rev. Dr. John Nelsen, former Pastor in Sapulpa, to Norman. Rev. Dr. John Nelsen has been involved in border ministry for over a decade and currently serves as Pastor of University Presbyterian Church in El Paso. Dr. Nelsen will give a first hand account of what is happening along the southern border and how people of faith are responding. John will be speaking both that morning in Sunday school and again from 3:30 to 5pm. We hope you will join us.

SUNDAY

September 1

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service with Communion

WEDNESDAY

September 4

6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

SUNDAY

September 8

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

KNOWN JOYS & CONCERNS

Those who seek healing

Lola Carroll

Sandy Clarke

Jan Cunningham

Jim Eckel

Laura Eckel

Doug Forsyth

Alice Lanning

Jayelle Martin

Gene Thraikill

Jona Thiessen

Devyn Upton

Karen Upton

Darrell Hinson (Karen Upton's father)

Paul Gallagher (Karen Upton's biological father)

Carole Jo Evans (Tracy Evans' mother)

Those who Experienced Recent Loss

John Beck whose mother Mary Jean died on August 19.

Donna Vint whose husband Harry Wright died on July 7.

Carl Forthman whose mother Betty Forthman died on July 1.

Seminary Graduate

Samuel McCann, Pittsburgh Theo. Seminary

We lift up in prayer the country of Cameroon and pray for the unrest our brothers and sisters are experiencing there.

Birthdays

September 1– Larry Upton Sr.

September 4– Trisha Bunce

September 6– Sumi Abunaw

Odette Eckel

September 1– Jona Thiessen

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week: **Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Togo**

We are **thankful** for:

- the beauty, natural resources, wildlife and different cultures in these countries
- the produce that small farmers continue to grow amid environmental and other hardships
- the spiritual vitality and growth of the churches and how they are cooperating with each other and those of other faiths and practices
- the relative peace and stability that prevails after long years of civil war and political struggle.

We **pray** for:

- more democratic governments that are free of corruption and that prioritize what the people most need
- those working to alleviate the poverty, illiteracy and hunger that so many in these countries still experience
- churches faithfully bringing the gospel to, and serving, all people with greater respect for how those of other faiths express their spirituality
- emotional and physical healing, and restoring hope in people who are victims of conflict, disease and human rights abuses