

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 15, 2021

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Holy One, sometimes, life feels chaotic and uncertain. It's hard to make sense of the things that happen to us. When we don't know where to find answers, when confusion sets us spinning, nudge us out of our spiral. Turn us back to you. Speak to us again with the words of eternal life. Repeat them gently until we understand. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

In Times Like These

Ruth Caye Jones

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

God is gracious and merciful and trustworthy.

Let us join our voices in giving thanks.

The works of God are all around us.

Those who share in God's work lack for nothing.

We are called to faithfulness, as God is faithful.

we are people of the covenant, gathered to please God.

Holy and awesome is God's name.

The fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.

Come, then, as wise and faithful people.

Come as a beloved community of the redeemed.

We are amazed that God remembers us.

We reach out to the God who cares for us.

*SONG OF PRAISE

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

Hymnal, No. 5

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Jesus, you spread out your arms to welcome the world.

And then you tell us to feed them. But we struggle with your command.

We find the seed of doubt growing in our hearts:

What is our compassion among so much pain?

What is our small kindness in a system of injustice?

What is one act of reconciliation in a divided society?

How can so little food feed so many hungry mouths?

We have simply forgotten: when you ask us to feed the world, you always provide the bread.

Even when we have tasted the bread you multiply; even when we gather your leftovers, we still find ourselves between your wondrous power and our sinful reality.

So we ask for your forgiveness.

When you call for our faith, forgive our unbelief.

As you prepare our heavenly dwelling, forgive our earthly worries.

When you offer us armfuls of food that satisfies, forgive our appetite for unhealthy fare.

When your gospel challenges us, forgive our irritable complaints.

You are patient with us even when we prove fussy and doubtful, reluctant and argumentative.

How often do we act this way just because we are hungry?

(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

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Michael Yeager

SCRIPTURE READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

Page No. 952

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 34:9-14

O fear the Lord, you his holy ones, for those who fear him have no want.

The young lions suffer want and hunger, but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing.

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

Which of you desires life, and covets many days to enjoy good?

Keep your tongue from evil, and your lips from speaking deceit.

Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:51-58

Page No. 868

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Unless You Eat

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Hymnal, No. 718

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(LBO) Please rise in body or spirit. Together with the whole church, let us confess our faith, using words adapted from the Confession of 1967.

**The life, death, resurrection,
and promised coming of Jesus Christ
has set the pattern for the church's mission.
His human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.
His service to men and women commits the church
to work for every form of human well-being.
His suffering makes the church sensitive
to all human suffering so that it sees the face of Christ
in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
His crucifixion discloses to the church**

**God's judgment on the inhumanity
that marks human relations,
and the awful consequences
of the church's own complicity in injustice.
In the power of the risen Christ
and the hope of his coming,
the church sees the promise
of God's renewal of human life in society
and of God's victory over all wrong.
The church follows this pattern
in the form of its life
and in the method of its action.
So to live and serve
is to confess Christ as Lord.**

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.32-33

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:... You have redeemed your people.

Holy and awesome is your name.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

The offering plates are in the narthex.

*You are invited to make an offering as you depart today; those who are worshipping
with us on-line will find information on giving on the church website,
www.memorialpres.org .*

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song Hymnal, No. 737

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Fantasia in E Major G.P. Telemann

*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 August 22: Semicontinuous: 1 Kings 8:1, 6, 10-11; 22-30, 41-43 and Psalm 84; Complementary: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18 and Psalm 34:15-22; Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69.

We are truly grateful for you joining us today, in person or via live streaming. This is new for us all, and we thank you for your patience with this new way. We will be adapting and changing as we work together to worship with devotion and safety protocols. If you have comments or suggestions, please let the pastor or a worship committee member know.

Food & Shelter items are being collected in the box outside the office.

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

"The Gospel According to Bread" Confession and Forgiveness by Barn Geese Worship is licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.

5 God the Sculptor of the Mountains

D Bm Em A7

1 God the sculp - tor of the moun - tains,
2 God the nui - sance of the Pha - raoh,
3 God the dress - er of the vine - yard,
4 God the un - ex - pect - ed in - fant,

D Bm Em7 A

God the mill - er of the sand,
God the cleav - er of the sea,
God the plant - er of the wheat,
God the calm, de - ter - mined youth,

F Dm Gm7 C

God the jewel - er of the heav - ens,
God the pil - lar in the dark - ness,
God the reap - er of the har - vest,
God the ta - ble - turn - ing proph - et,

F E7 A A7

God the pot - ter of the land:
 God the bea - con of the free:
 God the source of all we eat:
 God the res - ur - rect - ed truth:

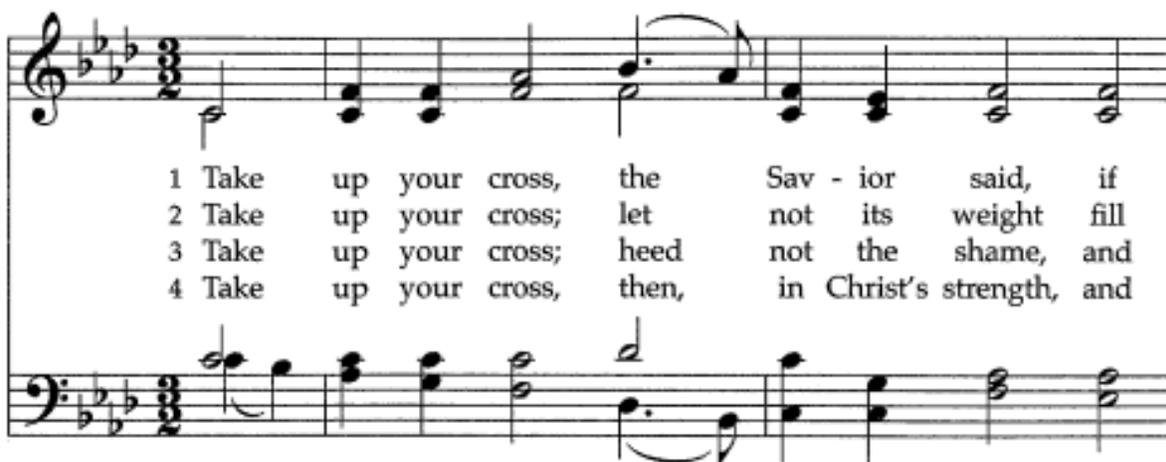
D F#m G F#m Bm

you are womb of all cre - a - tion;
 you are fount of all de - liv - erance;
 you are host at ev - ery ta - ble;
 you are pres - ent ev - ery mo - ment;

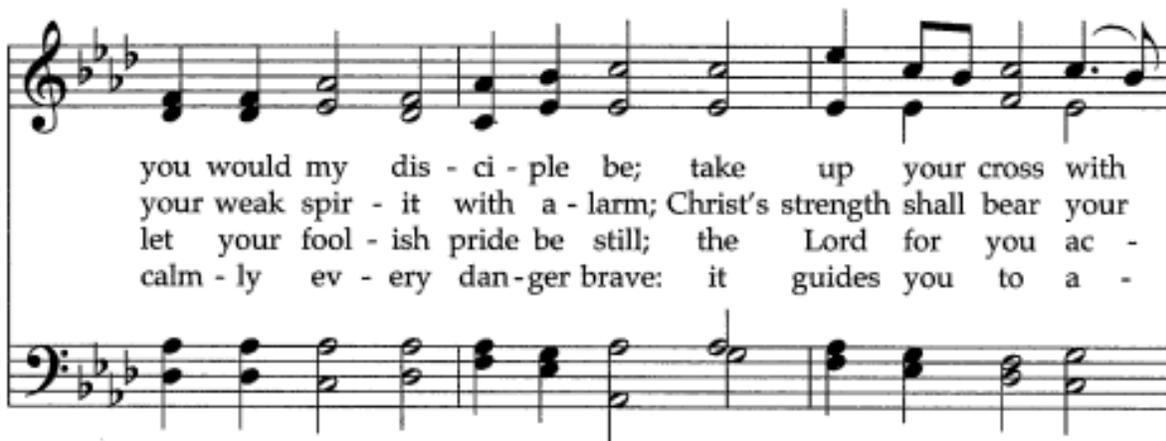
Em D Em D

we are form - less; shape us now.
 we are aim - less; lead us now.
 we are hun - gry; feed us now.
 we are search - ing; meet us now.

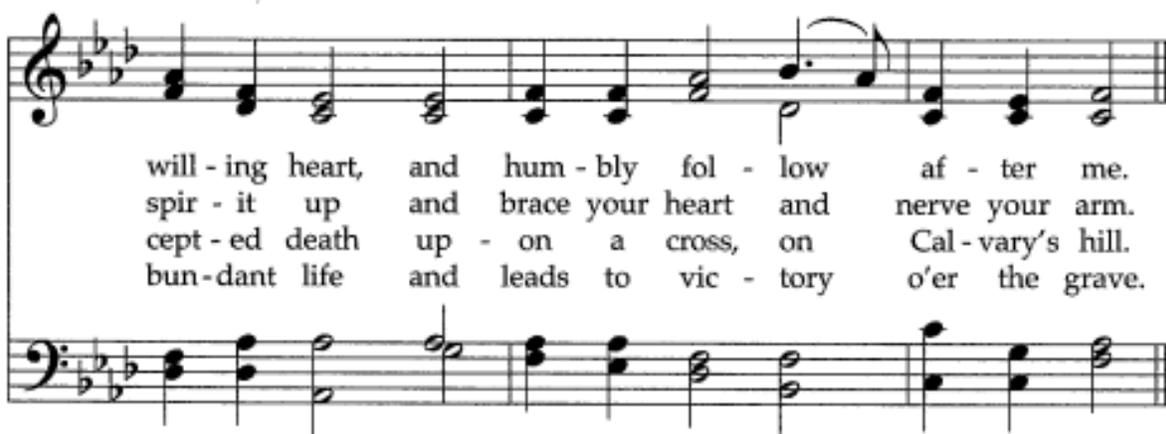
718 Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said



1 Take up your cross, the Sav - ior said, if
2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill
3 Take up your cross; heed not the shame, and
4 Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength, and



you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
your weak spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength shall bear your
let your fool - ish pride be still; the Lord for you ac -
calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -



will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
spir - it up and brace your heart and nerve your arm.
cept - ed death up - on a cross, on Cal - vary's hill.
bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.

737 Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

Jésus, je voudrais te chanter



1 Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney;
2 Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
3 As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant,
4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my jour - ney;



I'll tell ev - ery - bod - y a - bout you wher - ev - er I go:
May all of my joy be a faith - ful re - flec - tion of you.
to car - ry your cross and to share all your bur - dens and tears.
but cour - age will come with the sound of your steps by my side.



you a - lone are our life and our peace and our love.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
For you saved me by giv - ing your bod - y and blood.
And with all of the fam - ily you saved by your love,



Lord Je - sus, you shall be my song as I jour - ney.
Lord Je - sus, I'll praise you as long as I jour - ney.
As long as I live, Je - sus, make me your ser - vant.
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our jour - ney.

