



Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

God of love,
you weep for the hurt of your people,
for our injustice and greed.
We are broken but you desire our wholeness.
We bind one another with indebtedness of many kinds,
but you proclaim forgiveness.
Speak your Word to us,
that we may see not as the word does but as you do: with mercy and grace. May we
be good stewards of your love. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Prelude in D

Alan Gray
David Marvel, Organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

Beloved children of God,
in supplication and prayer,
with intercessions and with thanksgiving,

we come to worship God.

In hope and in humility,
with joy and with concerns,

we come to worship God.

In faith and in uncertainty,
with questions and with conviction,

let us worship God.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!

Hymnal, No. 839

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Trusting in God's mercy,
let us turn to God and make our confession.

**Holy God,
we confess that we are too concerned
with our own peace.
We seek the comfort of silence,
and ignore the cries of the oppressed.
We are inwardly focused,
missing your call to serve the world in justice and love.
Forgive us, O God.**

SERMON

A Shrewd Faith?

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

There is a Balm in Gilead

Hymnal, No. 792

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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... God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Take, O Take Me as I Am

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Hymnal, No. 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

Hymnal, No. 343

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

To God Be the Glory

*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 25: Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15 and Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16; Amos 6:1a, 4-7 and Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

The Food & Shelter item of the month for **September is peanut butter, 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.

Mark your calendars!!! On October 2nd we will be having our fabulous World Communion service!! After the service we will be having our Worldy Pot Luck luncheon. So be sure to come, worship, and join in on a yummy luncheon after church. There is a sign up poster in the hallway if you want to sign up to bring something. There is always way too much food. So come hungry!

REMINDER: There will be a congregational meeting on Sunday, September 25 immediately following worship for the purpose of electing church officers. The nominating committee is proposing this slate of officers -

For Session Class of 2024: Julie Forthman, Larry Upton and Charlotte Lovett

For Deacons Class of 2024: Carl Forthman, Lisa Upton and John Beck

We are in danger of losing our Kids Club. We need help with the program in the way of volunteers. Would you be willing to sit in a pick-up line at school and transport kids to the church every once in a while? Could you help with cleaning up the Fellowship Hall after a meal on occasion? We know that not everyone can commit to an every week job (though we'd love that), but if lots of folks pitch in, we can make it work.

Kids' Club needs support right now. If you feel that you're being called to this opportunity, please let Tracy know!

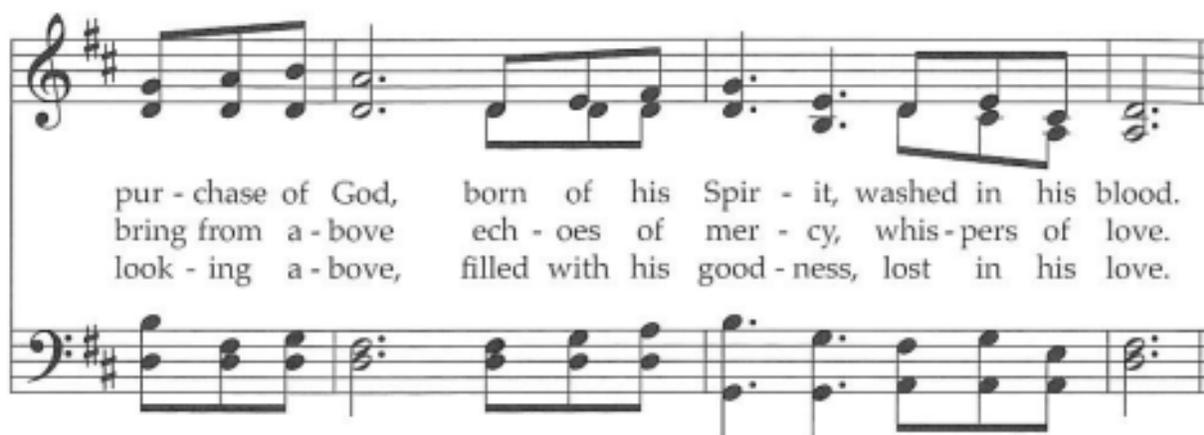
839 Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!



1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a
2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of
3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my



fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,
rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,



pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.
bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.
look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

Refrain



This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

There Is a Balm in Gilead 792

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

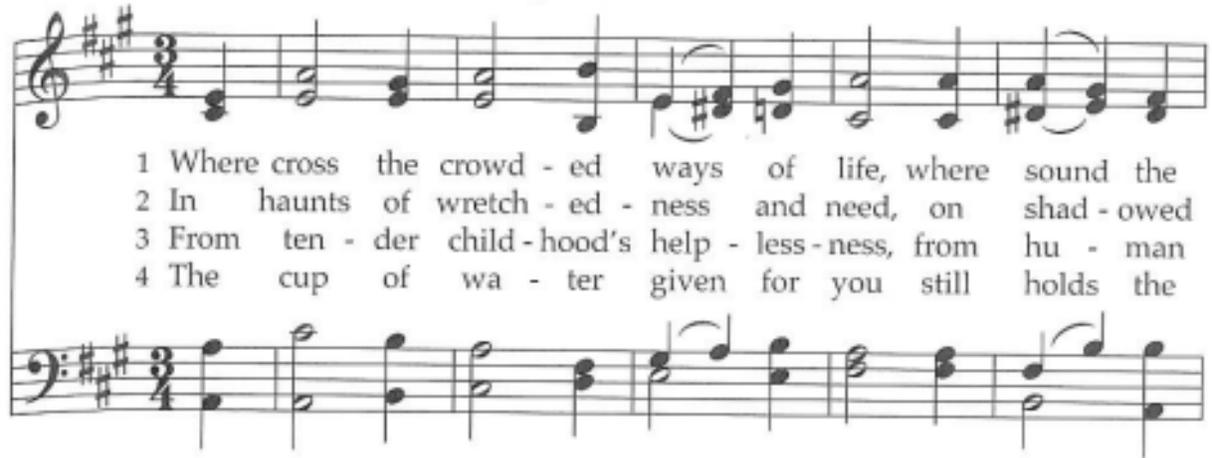
Fine

1 Some-times I feel dis-cour-aged, and think my work's in vain, but
 2 Don't ev-er feel dis-cour-aged, for Je-sus is your friend, and
 3 If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can

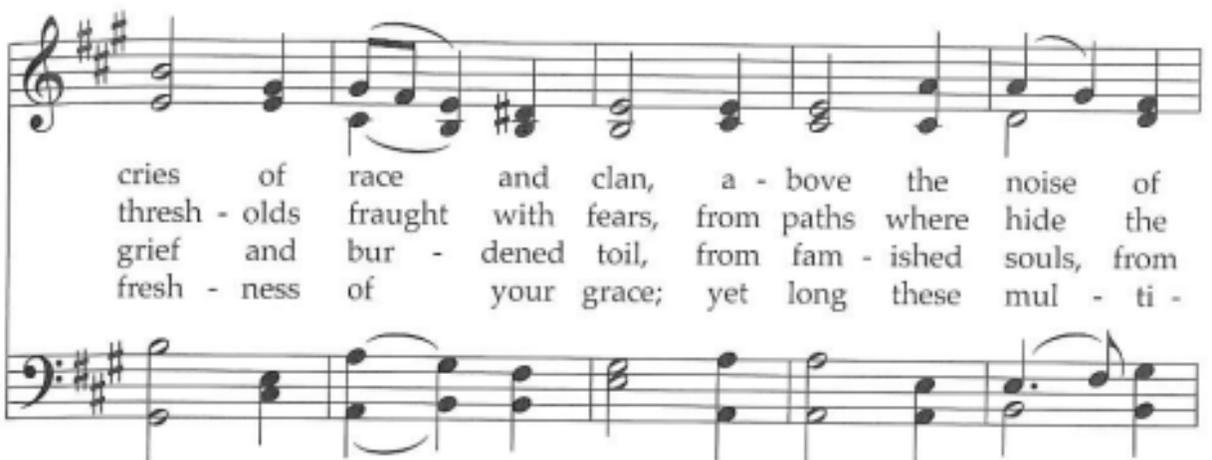
then the Ho-ly Spir-it re-vives my soul a-gain. There is a
 if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll not re-fuse to lend. There is a
 tell the love of Je-sus and say, "He died for all." There is a

to Refrain

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life 343



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man
4 The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
thresh - olds fraught with fears, from paths where hide the
grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from
fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.
lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.
tudes to view the sweet com - pas - sion of your face.