

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

*We may not be able to confront queens, or challenge presidents;
We may not have the capacity to divert resources, or uplift communities;
We may not have the voice to silence the noise of war,
or the words to negotiate peace between armies;
But, as we follow you, O Christ, we are able to do something.*

*And so, we pray that you would inspire us to commit to and act on
the small difference we can make:
May we bring peace through small acts of gentleness and reconciliation;
May we bring wealth through small contributions and collaborations;
May we bring safety through small acts of consideration and acceptance;
May we bring wholeness through small acts of care and service.*

*And in the small ways, O God, may our small difference make a big contribution
to your saving work in our world.*

Written by John van de Laar, Sacredise.com

PRELUDE

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God, your love is a fine pearl:

**beautiful, and perfect,
worth more than everything else.**

Your grace is the treasure we seek:

lovely, and hidden in the field of our lives.

So we sell all we have and buy the field.

**We leave all else aside and worship you,
shovels in hand, seeking your Word.**

*SONG OF PRAISE

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Hymnal, No. 367

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**God of grace, we want to understand what the kingdom of heaven is like,
but our minds are clouded by cares and concerns of the world. We fail to
trust your power, hidden in all things. We fail to watch for you, working out
your purposes in mysterious ways. We fail to be whole-hearted in our faith
and discipleship. We fail to put our trust in the treasures of your kingdom
instead of the treasures of the world. Gracious God, hidden and manifest,
give us eyes to see and ears to hear your good news for the world even
here and now. Transform our lives and our world by your grace.**

(Time for silent reflection)

Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news; the empires of this world
will rise and fall, but the mercy of the Lord will never end.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, thanks be to God.

*THE PEACE

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

And also with you.

*SONG OF RESPONSE

Glory to God

Hymnal, No. 582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

World without end, without end. Amen (x3)
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Page No. 919

Romans 8:26-39

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 119:129-136

Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.

The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.

With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments.

Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.

Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.

Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.

Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Page No. 795

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Treasures Among Us

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Be Thou My Vision

Hymnal, No. 450

**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)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response:...Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, p. 35

*Please pray the Lord's Prayer
in the language and wording most familiar to you.*

THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

Give Thanks

Hymnal, No. 647

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks because we're given
Jesus Christ, the Son. (repeat)

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
Let the poor say, "We are rich
because of what the Lord has done for us!" (repeat)

Give thanks. Give thanks.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG God of Grace and God of Glory Hymnal, No. 307

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

*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. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for August 2: Genesis 32:22-31 and Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 55:1-5 and Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21; Romans 9:1-5; Matthew 14:13-21.

The Food & Shelter items **for July are sunscreen and bug spray**. Please place your donations in the box by the coffee and snacks.