

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

14th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

Loving God, Voice of Life, you call to us.
You appear to us in many ways—in burning bushes and subtle hints.
By your Spirit in us, open our eyes to notice.
Open our ears to hear.
Open our hearts to follow and obey. Amen.

PRELUDE Adagio from Sonata in E-flat, K. 282 W. A. Mozart

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Nick Lindley

Gathered as God's people,
we come to worship together:
 singing praises to the One who loves us,
 opening our hearts to the One who calls us.
Called to be followers of Jesus,
we come to share our lives together:
 to celebrate the joys of our hearts,
 to mingle our tears with God's.
Challenged to become partners with the Spirit,
we will seek peace and hope:
 offering our food to our enemies,
 giving a drink of water to those
 who have drained our souls.

*SONG OF PRAISE I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord Hymnal, No. 310

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy or flawed. We confess that we think we know better than you do who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears and excuses and self-doubts. Lend us your fire and your strength, as we go about the work of serving our neighbors, building up your church, loving your children, and tending to the scorched places of our world. Help us to burn for you, without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.
(Time for silent reflection)

Hear the good news! New life rises from the ashes. In Christ, your sins are dead and you are alive to all that is good.

In Christ, we are made whole; in Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*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. 44

Exodus 3:1-15

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 26:1-8

Vindicate me, O Lord, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the Lord without wavering.

Prove me, O Lord, and try me; test my heart and mind.

For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.

I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites;

I hate the company of evildoers, and will not sit with the wicked.

I wash my hands in innocence, and go around your altar, O Lord,

singing aloud a song of thanksgiving, and telling all your wondrous deeds.

O Lord, I love the house in which you dwell, and the place where your glory abides.

ANTHEM

Walk in the Light

Larry Shackley

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 16:21-28

Page No. 798

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

A Costly Way of Life

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

Hymnal, No. 718

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Lift High the Cross

Hymnal, No. 826

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Allemande in B-flat Major

J. S. Bach

*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 September 6: Exodus 12:1-14 and Psalm 149; Ezekiel 33:7-11 and Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14; Matthew 18:15-20.

The Food & Shelter items **for August are ibuprofen and deodorant**. Please place your donations in the box by the coffee and snacks.

There will be a congregational meeting being held Sunday September 13 immediately following worship. The purpose of the meeting is to elect new officers (elders & deacons) for the Class of 2029. The proposed slate of officers: For session class of 2029 - Lucy Lanning and John Beck. For deacons class of 2029 - Mike Cole and Lisa Upton