

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 6, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

*God of all Creation, you gather us here in your Spirit as the Body of Christ.
You call us to grow in love and faith.
Open our ears to hear your Word.
Open our eyes to see the path you call us to.
Open our hearts to be changed and to grow, to blossom and to bear fruit, in the name
of Christ.
Speak, Holy One, for we are listening. Amen.*

PRELUDE

Allegro in F

William Boyce

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lucy Lanning

A new song awaits us;

God's Spirit is coming.

We can hear the music;

we're ready to move!

God's praise will be on our lips!

Neighbors from far and wide

will pour out from their doorways.

God's joy will be alive in the streets;

friends and strangers will gather.

All will rejoice;

together, we will breathe

a deep sigh of peace

as we turn our hearts

toward the justice of the Lord.

Let us worship God!

*SONG OF PRAISE

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Hymnal, No. 744

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us pray together:

Lord God, we have judged others harshly, unfairly and casually. We tend to focus on the sin, brokenness and foibles of others, rather than on the growth and work we are called to. We've made assumptions about what others want and need, robbing them of the freedom to speak for themselves. We've tuned out the voices bold enough to express views that are different from ours. We've relied upon your grace, time and time again, while hastily denying that you are eager to give it not only to us, but to our enemies, also. Help us to see others as you see them; help us to see you with faith and trust.

(Time of silent reflection)

*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 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

Romans 13:8-14

Page No. 923

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 119:33-40

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.

See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:15-20

Page No. 799

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Rules of Engagement

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

Hymnal, No. 203

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**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
(Romans 8:1, 28, 38, 39)**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*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

SEALING THE WORD—CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

ANTHEM

Come to the Table

Allen Pote

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORDS' PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

May God our Teacher be with you.

And also with you.

Now is the moment to offer your hearts to God.

Now, we turn our hearts to your grace.

Join in songs of thanks and praise to our God.

We join with all who are here and throughout the world in praise.

...we sing the songs of the gathered faithful:

Holy, holy, holy are you, Teacher of your children.

All creation sings the praises learned from you:

creatures roaming the earth,

dolphins splashing in the sea,

eagles soaring through the sky.

Glory to you forever and ever,

Hosanna in the highest!

As we come to this Table

which you have prepared for us,

we remember the faith which was his:

Christ died, facing death one-on-one.

Christ was raised, bringing new life for all.

Christ will come, when the time is right.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

The gifts of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG To God Be the Glory Hymnal, No. 634

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Allegro Maestoso G. F. Handel

*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 13: Exodus 14:19-31 and Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21; Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35.

The Food & Shelter items **for September are individually packaged snacks and razors.** 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