

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

17th Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

God of every blessing,
we remember the works of your hands:
the days you save us,
the people who embrace us,
the moments we feel free,
and the dreams you give us.
All of it is from you, Faithful One.
Sustain us with your strength,
that we may be surprised
by the miraculous gift of life itself. Amen.

PRELUDE

Processional Voluntary in B-flat

William Goodwin

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The wilderness is still.

The hungry are left empty.

The cracked earth crumbles.

The thirsty cry out.

The Promise Keeper pulls them close.

God, hear us now.

Water flows.

The Holy One listens.

A feast from heaven.

The Holy One provides.

With all that we have and all that we are, we say:

God is so good!

*SONG OF PRAISE

What Is This Place

Hymnal, No. 404

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

God of generosity,

we find ourselves bitter

when faced with your abundant grace.

We believe ourselves more deserving than others.

**We nurse our anger and resentment at those you forgive,
instead of rejoicing in the abundant love you show.**

Forgive us when we wish your grace was scarce.

Forgive the double standards we hold.

Help us to know that we are all in need of your grace,

and help us rejoice as we all gratefully receive your mercy.

(Time for silent reflection)

The grace of God is boundless,
poured out freely for all of us.

**We will receive this gift of forgiveness,
and trust God to transform our lives!**

*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. 953

Philippians 1:21-30

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 145:1-8

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

The might of your awesome deeds shall be proclaimed, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness, and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

ANTHEM

Creation Will Be At Peace

J. Paul Williams

SCRIPTURE READING

Jonah 3:10-4:11

Page No. 753

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Mercy Without a Building

Aaron McKee

*SONG OF FAITH

All Who Love and Serve Your City

Hymnal, No. 351

*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

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 Be with You Till We Meet Again

Hymnal, No. 542

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Voluntary in D-flat Major

David Johnson

*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 27: Exodus 17:1-7 and Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16; Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 and Psalm 25:1-9; Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32.

The Food & Shelter items **for September are individually packaged snacks and razors**. Please place your donations in the box by the coffee and snacks.

Mark your calendars for World Communion Sunday, October 4. You are welcome to bring a dish to share for the potluck following worship, or, just stay for good food!

