Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

24th Sunday after Pentecost **November 8, 2026**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP
Loving God, we look for you.
We wait for you.
Fill us with the oil of hope and attentiveness
so that we may see you when you are near,
and see to enter into your presence. Amen.

PRELUDE Air in F Major G. F. Handel

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Lucy Lanning

The Lord is coming. Whom you will serve?
As for me and my family, we will serve the Lord.
What has God done for you?
Wondrous works. Unforgettable deeds.
Strength in the wilderness; paths of liberation!
Say more.
We'll never stop telling our story.
The next generation will hear it.
Children not yet born will know it.
Hope in God, whose story will never end.
Forever we will praise
our faithful helper and deliverer!

*SONG OF PRAISE Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers Hymnal, No. 362

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

God of grace, we have sinned against you
by not honoring you or loving one another.
We sleep when you ask us to be awake.
We fall short in our preparations for the delays that inevitably come.
We fail to share what you have provided.
We have lost our hope.
Forgive our sinful ways, tame our wayward wills
and make us more like Christ.
Inspire us by your Spirit
so that we will be prepared to welcome the Lord when he appears.
May our lives here and now be a glimpse of what we hope all may one day enjoy.
(Time for silent reflection)

Friends, hear these words, and listen to this good news: Jesus died and rose again, and will bring with him both those who have died and those who are alive.

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. 960

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O Lord, make haste to help me!

Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me.

Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!" turn back because of their shame.

Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"

But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God!

You are my help and my deliverer; O Lord, do not delay!

ANTHEM Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning African American Spiritual

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:1-13 Page No. 806

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Keep Awake Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH What Is the World Like Hymnal, No. 771

*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/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 Today We All Are Called to be Disciples Hymnal, No. 757

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Gavotte Samuel Wesley

*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 November 15: Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

The Food & Shelter items of the month for November are cough drops/ cold medicine and blankets**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.**