

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

August 24, 2014

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Ever-present God, who is at the side of every creature in creation, renew our lives so that we may discern and do your will, what is good and acceptable and perfect. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Hugh Livingston, Jr.

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Sisters and brothers in Christ, let us present ourselves to God. **This is our spiritual worship.** We are many members, with many different gifts. **But in Christ we are one body.** Let us worship God!

*SONG OF PRAISE Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

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*CALL TO CONFESSION

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world. We conform to this world's frantic pace, too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide. We conform to this world's reckless waste, exploiting what you entrust to our care. We conform to this world's shallow values, oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us. We conform to this world's impatient attitudes, preferring the latest instead of the lasting. Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, we would now be lost in sin. But it is the Lord who is on our side.

> And so we are forgiven. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

*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 Be to the Father 56	*SONG OF RESPONSE
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TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 12:1-8 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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Ps. 124:1, 8

Matthew 16:13-20 The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM	Sea of Mercy			
MESSAGE	Given Identity	Tracy L. Evans		
*SONG OF FAITH	Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me	438		
*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH But why are you called a Christian? Because by faith I am a member of Christ and so I share in his anointing. I am anointed to confess his name, to present myself to him as a living sacrifice of thanks, to strive with a free conscience against sin and the devil in this life, and afterward to reign with Christ over all creation for eternity. Adapted from Heidelberg Catechism Q32				
SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Response: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. The Lord's Prayer Hymnal, p. 35				
THE OFFERING OFFERTORY	Rejoice, the Lord Is King!	Cindy Berry		
*DOXOLOGY DEDICATION	Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow PRAYER	606		
FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD				
*SENDING SONG	Lift Every Voice and Sing	339		

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***TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

*BLESSING AND CHARGE CHORAL BENEDICTION

Take My Life

*POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune in C major

David Johnson

*Those who are able may stand.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for August 31: Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28.

The Urban Mission item of the month for August is **hygiene products**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and large print hymnals are available from the ushers.

Ushers for today's service are Mike and Joan Cole.

Parents Helping Parents will meet on Thursday, August 28 at 7:00 P.M. at the Education Center at Norman Regional Hospital, 901 North Porter in Norman. Join us for an evening of inspiration as Oklahoma Outreach Executive Director Mike Boss moderates a panel of young people in recovery who will share their journeys of hope and healing. Parents Helping Parents is a network of parents and others concerned about alcohol/substance abuse in their (adolescent or adult) children. The group offers hope through shared experience, resources, and education. They promote prevention and intervention, collaborative efforts and increased access to information/services, and support. For more information, call 278-1221 or go to the website: www.ParentsHelpingParents.info.

Men of all ages are invited to enjoy good food and fellowship at the **Men's Potluck Breakfast** on Saturday, September 6, from 8:30 to 10:00 A.M. You are asked to bring your favorite breakfast food: there is a sign-up list for food items in the hallway. The deacons would like to invite you to a **wedding shower** for Caitlin Stensrud on Saturday, September 6, from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. Caitlin is registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond; Crate & Barrel; and www.etsy.com.

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week. This week we pray for Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. We give thanks for the new life which has emerged from the ashes of communism; the churches, which have experienced new vitality among the people of the Baltic states; smoked fish, hearty breads, pancakes and berry pies. We pray for economic improvement and stability as these countries convert their economies and experience opportunities that were not available in the past; justice and strength for those who speak out against corruption and make a stand for the homeless and poor; the large ethnic minorities in each of these countries who have found themselves marginalized, vilified and at times attacked; care and guidance for women clergy who seek ways to respond to the call of God in their lives; the environment that has been severely degraded by heavy industrialization and urbanization, and those who must live with the results of polluted air, soil and water.

SUNDAY

August 24

- 9:30 A.M. Sunday School 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
- 10:55 A.M. Worship Service

MONDAY

August 25

6:00 P.M. - Personnel Committee meeting

WEDNESDAY

August 27

6:30 P.M. – Worship & Music meeting

THURSDAY

August 28

10:30 A.M. – Bible Study in Library 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

SUNDAY

August 31

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School

10:30 A.M. - Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. - Worship Service