# **Memorial Presbyterian Church**

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

September 23, 2018

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Grand Isle

Charles Callahan

**BRINGING THE LIGHT** 

\*CALL TO WORSHIP Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good. **God's steadfast love endures forever.** The last are first in the realm of God; **the least are welcomed in Jesus' name.** 

\*SONG OF PRAISE God of Grace and God of Glory Hymnal, No. 307

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

#### \*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

Merciful God, we confess that we have not followed your way. We sow the seeds of conflict while you seek the harvest of peace. We argue about who is greatest while you welcome the last and least. Forgive us, God of grace. Draw near to us this day with the wisdom of your Word, and teach us how to serve you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (Time of silent reflection)

\*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

**\*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 Hymnal, No. 581 TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES **PROCLAIMING THE WORD** PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Lucy Lanning SCRIPTURE READING Mark 9:30-37 Page No. 821 The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. **RESPONSIVE PSALM** Psalm 1 Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish. If You Trust in God to Guide You ANTHEM SCRIPTURE READING James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Page No. 982 The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. MESSAGE Wise Or...Clever Michael W. Yeager \*SONG OF FAITH Open Your Ears, O Faithful People Hymnal, No. 453

#### \*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 sufferina 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 Response: ... God of abundant grace, hear our prayer. The Lord's Prayer Hymnal, p. 35 THE OFFERING OFFERTORY Thaxted David Blackwell \*DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Hymnal, No. 606

\*DEDICATION PRAYER

### FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG	Be Thou My Vision	Hymnal, No. 450
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**\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD** 

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE CHORAL BENEDICTION

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant?

\*POSTI UDF

Symphony No. 1 VI. Final-Louis Vierne

\*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. 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 September 30: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

The **Food and Shelter** item of the month for September is **peanut butter and jelly**. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

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

**Ushers** for today's service are Mike and Karen Girdner.

#### Looking Ahead:

World Communion Worship and Potluck	October 7
Speaker Panel on Hunger	October 14
Fall Clean-up	October 20

#### SUNDAY

#### September 23

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

#### MONDAY

## September 24

6:00 P.M. – Worship Committee Meeting

## WEDNESDAY

## September 26

3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club 5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

## SUNDAY

## September 30

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments

10:55 A.M. – Worship Service