

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

21st Sunday after Pentecost

November 2, 2025

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Gracious God,
like Zacchaeus we long to see you,
but many things get in our way.
Help us now to set them aside,
to look past all the obstructions and distractions,
and look only to you, and listen to you.
As your scriptures are read and your good news proclaimed,
open the eyes of our hearts and the ears of our souls,
so that we might hear your Word, and be changed. Amen.*

PRELUDE Prelude on Shall we Gather at the River Joel Raney

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Charlotte Lovett
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The changing colors of leaves, the laughter of children playing dress-up,
the flowers and trees that become food for foraging creatures:

Lord, your creation boasts of your goodness.

The Sunday school teachers who taught us your Word, the stranger
who asked us if we were okay, the parent who showed us right and
wrong, the neighbor who dropped by to say hello:

Lord, your creation boasts of your love.

Let us join together as a community and worship our Creator, the author
of everything that is beautiful.

*SONG OF PRAISE Will You Come and Follow Me Hymnal, No. 726

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Holy and gracious God, you are the author of every good thing.
Forgive us for the ways we fall short of the beautiful story you invite us
to step into.**

**You ask us to look to the margins and care for the lost;
we center ourselves.**

You ask us to give away; we grab for more.

You ask us to love one another; we cannot see beyond our divisions.

The world is full of ugliness, from the macro to the micro.

Forgive us. Help us.

We call on you, our beloved, our help, our God, our hope.

Hear our silent confessions now.

(Time of silent reflection)

This is good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

*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

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Samuel McCann

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Trudy Beard

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Page No. 960

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 32:1-7

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. Selah

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. Selah

ANTHEM

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 19:1-10

Page No. 854

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Tracy L. Evans

*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

Response: ... God our Savior, **hear our prayer.**

THE OFFERING

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Hymnal, No. 609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SEALING THE WORD—CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LORDS' PRAYER

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Therefore we praise you, joining the song
of the universal church
and the heavenly choir:

**...Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

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

For All the Saints

Hymnal, No. 326

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on All Creatures of our God and King

Alfred Smith

*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 9: Haggai 2:1-2:9 and Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 or Psalm 98; Job 19:23-27a and Psalm 17:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17; Luke 20:27-38.

The Food & Shelter items of the month for November are canned goods and non perishable items. **Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.**