

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2026

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

WE PREPARE FOR WORSHIP

*In every place and every time,
in every relationship and every interaction,
You are God.*

*You are God to the poor and to the wealthy,
to the weak and to the powerful;
You are God to the believer and to the doubter,
to the religious and to the atheist;
You are God to the courageous and to the fearful,
to the fighter and to the peacemaker;
You are God to the leader and to the follower,
to the parent and to the child;*

*You are God to all,
and Your grace and love extends to all.
And while we may seek to keep You to ourselves,
while we may try to hoard Your blessings,
You have come to all, You are available to all,
and all who want You will find that You are there.*

*We praise You that our small self-interests are not enough
to keep You from being the great and all-embracing God
that You are.*

Amen.

PRELUDE

Prelude on Lasst uns Erfreuen

H. Leonard

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Lucy Lanning

God of Love, we have come by many arduous roads
to this day in this place.

You have accompanied us.

We have needed you.

And you have provided, sometimes in ways we did not see.

Still we are in your house, members of your family.

Still we are loved. So we praise you. We thank you. We worship you.

*SONG OF PRAISE

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Hymnal, No. 250

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**We admit, Providing God, that we have difficulties living as your children.
We could live in unity, but our words fracture relationships with family and
friends. We have been shown the way to your kingdom, but turn into blind-
guides when asked for the directions by others. When we could offer oth-**

ers the precious oil of peace, we hand them the vinegar of despair and rejection.

Have mercy on us, Healing Heart, have mercy on us. When you call to us, may we listen with open ears, understand with embracing hearts, and share your grace with others, even as we have been graced by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

(Time for silent reflection)

Hear the good news for you: God has provided hope for you, filling you with joy, with mercy, with peace.

As mercy leads to mercy, we will take these gifts to share with the world. Thanks be to God. Amen.

***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. 921

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 67

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, Selah

that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Selah

Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

May God continue to bless us;

let all the ends of the earth revere him.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 15 (10-20) 21-28

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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MESSAGE

Crumbs of Faith

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Amazing Grace

Hymnal, No. 649

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Confession of 1967

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS/PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Response...Let the peoples praise you, O God;

let all the peoples praise you.

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

O for a World

Hymnal, No. 372

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Finale in F Major

G. F. Handel

*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 August 23: Exodus 1:8-2:10 and Psalm 124; Isaiah 51:1-6 and Psalm 138; Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20.

The Food & Shelter items **for August are ibuprofen and deodorant**. Please place your donations in the box by the coffee and snacks.