



Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 23, 2022

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Loving God,
we do not pretend to know your will,
nor do we seek to understand your mysteries.
We only want to draw nearer to you.
Be present with us, and let us receive new life.
Speak to us, and let us hear.
Touch us, and let us fall in love. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Michael Yeager, pianist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

God, not by our strength,
but by your grace we come.
Not because of our righteousness,
but in your grace, you love us.
Not by our effort,
but by your Spirit in us, our praise overflows.
We thank you. We bless you. We worship you.

*SONG OF PRAISE

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

Hymnal, No. 415

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Loving God,
too often we hide beneath the veil of religion
or trust too much in the good things we do.
Smug and safe in our pews,
we look down on those not here,
thankful we are not like them.
Shatter us with the truth that all have sinned,
even us.
We have failed to live as the people you call us to be.
Cleanse us and restore us,
for the sake of Jesus, our Savior.
(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

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Mike Girdner

SCRIPTURE READING

Joel 2:23-32

Page No. 741

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 65

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,

O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.

When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts.

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;
you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

**By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with
might.**

You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the
peoples.

**Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you
make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.**

You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of
water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

**You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with show-
ers, and blessing its growth.**

You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,
the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with
grain,

they shout and sing together for joy.

ANTHEM

Shall We Gather at the River

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 18:9-14

Page No. 853

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

SERMON Standing Far Off Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness Hymnal, No. 291

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Philemon 2:5-11

**God of abundance, we thank you for your gifts!
You have created all things by your Word,
and created us in your image.
We are in awe, and full of wonder.**

**Christ, our healer, teacher and savior, we thank you for your gifts.
You have gathered us into a community of hope and compassion.
You have given us your blessing
and offered to us your wisdom.
You have filled us with your Spirit and your love.
You died for us, and rose that we too might die and rise in faith.
So we follow you with trust and gratitude.**

**Holy Spirit, you give us gifts with which to serve God and our
neighbors.
You make us into one body by the grace of your presence,
with the power to forgive.
Trusting in the mystery of resurrection and your presence within us,
we devote ourselves to you, Holy One,
in courage and compassion.
And in all things, we thank you!
Thank you! Thank you! Amen.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response... Gracious God, **hear our prayer.**
The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow Hymnal, No. 606

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG I Danced in the Morning Hymnal, No. 157

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

*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 October 30: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 and Psalm 119:137-144; Isaiah 1:10-18 and Psalm 32:1-7; 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12; Luke 19:1-10

The Food & Shelter item of the month for **October is dry beans, bags of rice and powdered milk. 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.

415 Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

All or Leader

1 Come, ye sin - ners, poor and need - y, weak and wound-ed,
 2 Come, ye thirst-y, come, and wel - come; God's free boun - ty
 3 Come, ye wea - ry, heav - y lad - en, lost and ru - ined
 4 Let not con - science make you lin - ger, nor of fit - ness

sick and sore; Je - sus read - y stands to save you,
 glo - ri - fy, true be - lief and true re - pen - tance,
 by the fall; if you tar - ry till you're bet - ter,
 fond - ly dream; all the fit - ness he re - quir - eth

Refrain
All

full of pit - y, love, and power.
 ev - ery grace that brings you nigh. I will a - rise and
 you will nev - er come at all.
 is to feel your need of him.

go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms. In the

arms of my dear Sav - ior, O there are ten thou - sand charms.

291 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Spirit

Refrain



Spir - it, spir - it of gen - tle - ness, blow through the



wil - der - ness, call - ing and free. Spir - it,



spir - it of rest - less - ness, stir me from plac - id - ness,



wind, wind on the sea. *Fine*



- 1 You moved on the wa - ters; you called to the
- 2 You swept through the des - ert; you stung with the
- 3 You sang in a sta - ble; you cried from a
- 4 You call from to - mor - row; you break an - cient



deep; then you coaxed up the moun - tains from the
 sand; and you goad - ed your peo - ple with a
 hill; then you whis - pered in si - lence when the
 schemes; from the bond - age of sor - row the

E Asus A D G

val - leys of sleep; and o - ver the e -
 law and a land. When they were con - found -
 whole world was still. And down in the cit -
 cap - tives dream dreams. Our wom - en see vi -

A G D

ons you called to each thing, "A -
 ed with i - dols and lies, then you
 y, you called once a - gain when you
 sions; our men clear their eyes. With

Bm G

wake from your slum - bers and
 spoke through your proph - ets to
 blew through your peo - ple on the
 bold new de - ci - sions your

A D G/A D A to Refrain

rise on your wings."
 o - pen their eyes.
 rush of the wind.
 peo - ple a - rise.

157 I Danced in the Morning

Capo 3: (D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)
F Dm Am Dm

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I
2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but
3 I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame. The
4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black. It's
5 They cut me down and I leapt up high. †

(Em) (A)
Gm C

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I
they would not dance and they would not foll - ow me. I
ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame. They
hard to dance with the dev - il on your back. They
I am the life that will nev - er, nev - er die. I'll

(D) (Bm) (F#m) (Bm)
F Dm Am Dm

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At
danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John. They
whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, and
bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but
live in you if you'll live in me, †

(Em) (A7) (G) (D)
Gm C7 Bb F

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
came with me and the dance went on.
left me there on a cross to die.
I am the dance and I still go on.
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

