

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

7th Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2023

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Author of Life, Living Word, Holy Breath,
we have stumbled through the week
and groped our way back to this place.
Illumine the steps before us
and write your word on our hearts,
for we carry the name of Jesus
and would walk in the light of his love. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Chorale in G Major

William Walond

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God of truth, sow the seed of your Word in our hearts.

We receive your grace with glad and generous hearts.

Loving Christ, sow the seeds of healing and growth in our bodies and souls.

We receive your grace with glad and generous hearts.

Holy Spirit, sow the seeds of your love in our lives.

We receive your grace with glad and generous hearts. Alleluia!

*SONG OF PRAISE

At the Name of Jesus

Hymnal, No. 264

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**O God, we are quick to say,
"We didn't know."
"We didn't mean to."
"We didn't expect that to happen."
But we have not tended the soil of our lives.
We let it stay shallow and rocky
by not learning from the experience of others.
We let it be riddled with thorns
by succumbing to our own prejudices.
Life-giving God,
Help us to tend our soil.
Open us to being challenged,
enable us to learn,
so that your word will take root
and bear good fruit in our lives.**
(Time of silent reflection)

There is no condemnation for us:
God has forgiven us
that we might live according to the Spirit.
**The Spirit of God dwells within us.
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 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 with-out end, with-out end. Amen (x3)

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Mike Girdner

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:1-11

Page No. 918

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 65:9-13

(LBO) Please read with me from Psalm 65, as printed in your bulletin.

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 showers, 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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Page No. 794

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

God, the Foolish Farmer

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Seed, Scattered and Sown

Hymnal, No. 531

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Christ Jesus,
though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be exploited,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
being born in human likeness.
And being found in human form
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him
and gave him the name that is above every name,
so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen**
(from Philippians, chapter 2:5-11)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response: ...Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymnal, p. 35

*Please pray the Lord's Prayer
in the language and wording most familiar to you.*

THE OFFERING
OFFERTORY

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

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG Come, Labor On Hymnal, No. 719

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Fugue in C Major Dietrich Buxtehude

*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 July 23: Genesis 28:10-19a and Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Wisdom of Solomon 12:13, 16-19 or Isaiah 44:6-8 and Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43.

The Food & Shelter items of the month for July **are bagged beans and canned beans. 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.

At the Name of Jesus

264

Capo 5: (Am)

(G) (Am) (C) (Am) (Dm) (Am)
Dm C Dm F Dm Gm Dm



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - ery knee shall bow,
2 Hum - bled for a sea - son to re - ceive a name
3 Bore it up tri - um - phant, with its hu - man light,
4 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain,

(C) (G) (Am) (C) (Dm)
F C Dm F Gm



ev - ery tongue con - fess him King of glo - ry now;
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
through all ranks of crea - tures, to the cen - tral height,
with his Fa - ther's glo - ry o'er the earth to reign;

(G) (Em) (Am) (G) (D) (G)
C Am Dm C G C



'tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure we should call him Lord,
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last,
to the throne of God - head, to the Fa - ther's breast,
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,

(Am) (G) (Em) (Dm) (C) (G) (Am)
Dm C Am Gm F C Dm



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
brought it back vic - to - rious, when from death he passed;
filled it with the glo - ry of that per - fect rest.
and our hearts con - fess him King of glo - ry now.

Seed, Scattered and Sown

531

Refrain C *All* G Am F G C C7

Seed, scat-tered and sown; wheat, gath-ered and grown;

F G C Am Dm7 G G7

bread, bro-ken and shared as one, the liv - ing bread of God.

C G Am F G C C7 F G

Vine, fruit of the land; wine, work of our hands; one cup that is

C Am Dm7 C Dm7 G C *Fine*

shared by all, the liv - ing cup, the liv - ing bread of God.

Linger or All Am G F C Dm G C

1 Is not the bread we break a shar - ing in our Lord?

2 The seed which falls on rock will with - er and will die.

3 As wheat up - on the hills was gath-ered and was grown,

E Am F G G7 *to Refrain*

Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ out-poured?

The seed with - in good ground will flow - er and have life.

so may the church of God be gath-ered in - to one.

719

Come, Labor On

Capo 1: (G) (C) (G) (Em) (C) (G) (C) (D) (G)
 A^b D^b A^b Fm D^b A^b D^b E^b A^b

- 1 Come, la-bor on. Who dares stand i - dle on the har - vest plain
 2 Come, la-bor on. Claim the high call - ing an - gels can - not share;
 3 Come, la-bor on. Cast off all gloom - y doubt and faith - less fear!
 4 Come, la-bor on. No time for rest, till glows the west - ern sky,

(Em) (B7) (Em) (B) (Em) (C) (D)
 Fm C7 Fm C Fm D^b E^b

while all a - round us waves the gold - en grain? And to each
 to young and old the gos - pel glad - ness bear. Re - deem the
 No arm so weak but may do ser - vice here. Though fee - ble
 till the long shad - ows o'er our path - way lie, and a glad

(G) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)
 A^b Fm D^b A^b B^bm E^b7 A^b

ser - vant does the Mas - ter say, "Go work to - day."
 time; its hours too swift - ly fly. The night draws nigh.
 a - gents, may we all ful - fill God's righ - teous will.
 sound comes with the set - ting sun, "Well done, well done!"

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.