

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

July 23, 2023

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*God who knows us completely,  
who knows our words  
before we even have a chance to speak,  
wrap us in your presence.  
Still the distractions that well up in us.  
Search us, know us,  
and guide us to the wisdom  
you would have us hear today. Amen.*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Voluntary in F

Charles Zeuner

### BRINGING THE LIGHT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

Creator God, you are in this place.

**God of light and dark, God of word and Silence, you are in this place.**

Saving God, guiding God, you are in this place.

**God within us, you are in this place.**

We greet you! We thank you.

**We worship you. Open our hearts to your presence, now and always.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE

Lord, the Light of Your Love is Shining

Hymnal, No. 192

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Master Gardener,  
weeds and wheat fill the fields of our lives,  
grow entangled,  
and are difficult to distinguish.  
We have not spent the time we should in prayer  
and study of your Word  
to help us discern what is evil and against your will.  
We excuse our complacency  
and justify our passive faith.  
Yet we need your truth.  
We hunger for your harvest.  
Jesus, forgive us.  
Deliver us from evil.  
Clear our path to you. Amen.  
(Time of silent reflection)**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\*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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Jim Rodriguez

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:12-25

Page No. 919

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24, paraphrase

O Holy One, you see me from the inside out.

**You know me better than I do.**

You take every step with me;

**you have already walked all my journeys.**

Even before I speak

**you know my thoughts.**

You are around me and within me;

**I feel your hand on my back.**

I can't imagine the greatness of your love;

**I can only trust it.**

Where could I go from your presence?

**In outer space, at the core of the earth—there you are.**

If I ran away to the farthest place,

**you would be with me all the way.**

I could try to hide in perfect darkness

**but to you the darkness is light.**

You formed me before I was born;

**you made me by hand in secret.**

I praise you, for you are wonderful!

**For I am wonderfully, awesomely made.**

How amazing is your wisdom, O God,

**how infinite your presence.**

When I try to comprehend, you are beyond my understanding.

**But when I simply become aware—here you are.**

Search through me, O God, and know my heart.

**Root out what is unloving, and lead me in your life-giving way.**

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Page No. 794

MESSAGE

Grown Together

Tracy L. Evans

\*SONG OF FAITH

O God, We Bear the Imprint

Hymnal, No. 759

\*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 2:5-1))*

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

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Hymnal, No. 547

\*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*BLESSING AND CHARGE

\*POSTLUDE

Fuga

Josef Seeger

\*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 30: Genesis 29:15-28 and Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Psalm 128; 1 Kings 3:5-12 and Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52.

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.

# 192 Lord, the Light of Your Love Is Shining

## Shine, Jesus, Shine

Capo 2: (G) (C) (G) (D) (G)

A D A E A

1 Lord, the light of your love is shin - ing, in the  
2 Lord, I come to your awe - some pres - ence, from the  
3 As we gaze on your king - ly bright - ness, so our

(C) (G) (D) (C) (D)

D A E D E

midst of the dark - ness, shin - ing; Je - sus, Light of the  
shad - ows in - to your ra - dian - ce; by the blood I may  
fac - es dis - play your like - ness; ev - er chang - ing from

(Bm7) (Em7) (C) (D) (Bm7)

C#m7 F#m7 D E C#m7

World, shine up - on us; set us free by the truth you now  
en - ter your bright - ness. Search me; try me; con - sume all my  
glo - ry to glo - ry, mir - rored here may our lives tell your

(Em7) (F) (Dsus)(D) (F) (Dsus)(D)

F#m7 G Esus E G Esus E

bring us. Shine on me; shine on me.  
dark - ness. Shine on me; shine on me.  
sto - ry. Shine on me; shine on me.

Refrain (G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)

A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Shine, Je - sus, shine; fill this land with the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (Am/G) (F) (D7sus) (D7)  
 A E F#m D A Bm Bm/A G E7sus E7

Blaze, Spir - it, blaze; set our hearts on fire.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am7) (C) (D7) (C) (D)  
 A E F#m D A Bm7 D E7 D E

Flow, riv - er, flow; flood the na - tions with grace and mer - cy.

(G) (D) (Em) (C) (G) (Am) (D7) (G)  
 A E F#m D A Bm E7 A

Send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.

# O God, We Bear the Imprint 759



1 O God, we bear the im-print of your face: the col - ors  
 2 Where we are torn and pulled a - part by hate be - cause our  
 3 O God, we share the im - age of the One whose flesh and



of our skin are your de - sign, and what we have of  
 race, our skin is not the same, while we are judged un -  
 blood are ours, what - ev - er skin; in Christ's hu - man - i -



beau - ty in our race as man or wom - an, you a -  
 e - qual by the state and vic - tims made be - cause we  
 ty we find our own, and in his fam - i - ly our



lone de - fine, who stretched a liv - ing fab - ric on our  
 own our name, hu - man - i - ty re - duced to lit - tle  
 prop - er kin: Christ is the broth - er we still cru - ci -

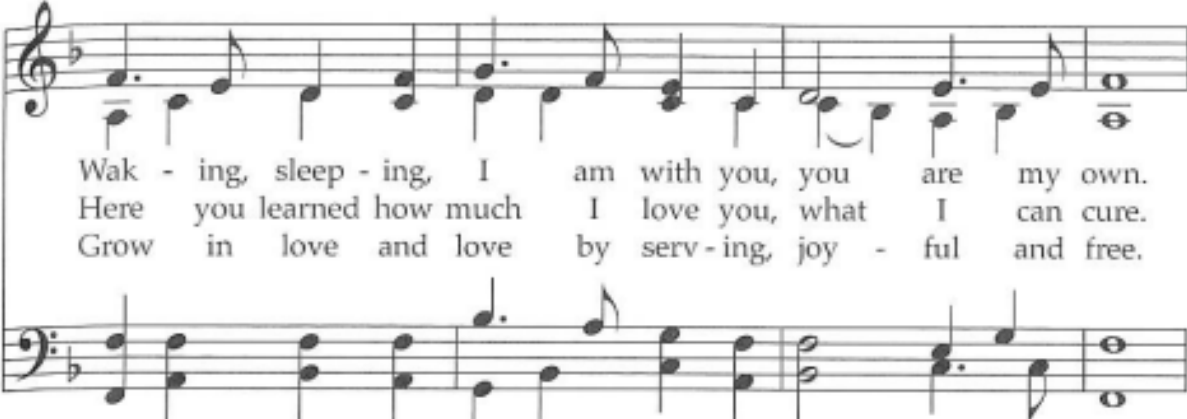


frame and gave to each a lan - guage and a name.  
 worth, dis - hon - ored is your liv - ing face on earth.  
 fy, his love the lan - guage we must learn, or die.

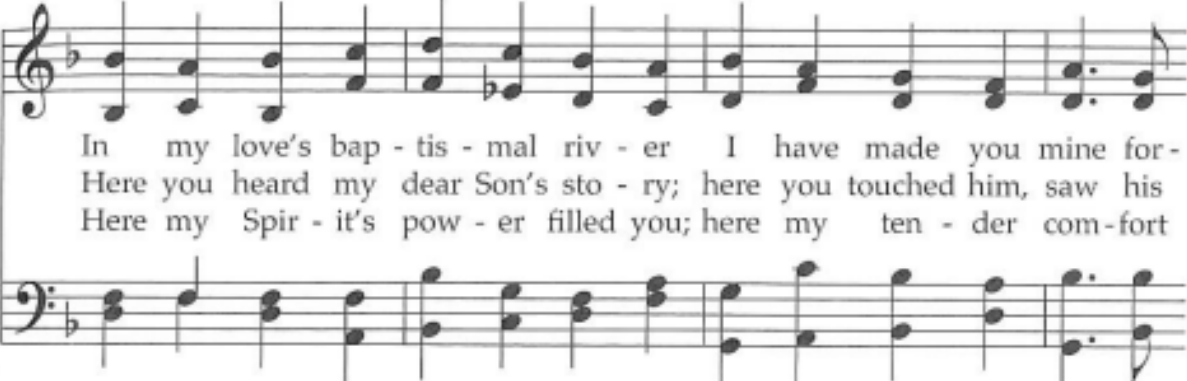
# Go, My Children, with My Blessing 547



1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for -  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry; here you touched him, saw his  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you; here my ten - der com - fort



ev - er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
glo - ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free."