Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

12th Sunday after Pentecost

August 20, 2023

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Spirit of Love, you come to us in many ways. Open our hearts to see you before us. Open our ears to hear your voice. Open our hearts to receive your love and to bear your love to all, in the name and the grace of Christ. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Processional in E-flat Major David Johnson

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Vince Leseney

Holy God, earth beneath our feet—

Holy Word, hope in our darkness—

Holy Spirit, breath within the breath—

You intend only good, and make your light shine in all our darkness.

We praise you. We thank you. We worship you.

*SONG OF PRAISE Great is Thy Faithfulness Hymnal, No. 39

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

God of all goodness, We do not want to face all that is in our own hearts. We want to focus on the good on the love, the compassion, the care and ignore the bad the greed, the envy, the cruelty. But before you, God, we must face it. Forgive all the ways we have let evil take hold in our hearts. Cleanse us. Help us face our own demons, and empower us to live

a Christlike life.

(Time of silent reflection)

Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. There are no prerequisites, no disqualifications, no exceptions.

> We are saved, we are forgiven, we are freed! Hallelujah!

*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

Charlotte Lovett

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Page No. 921

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, 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 15:21-28

Page No. 797

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE An Outsider's Faith

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

For All the Faithful Women

Hymnal, No. 324

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

(Romans 8:1,28,38,39)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response: ...Lord, help us; 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 In Christ there is No East or West Hymnal, No. 317

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE March 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. 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 August 27: 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 of the month for August are toothbrushes and toothpaste. 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.

Please plan to stay for a potluck meal following worship on Sunday, August 27. You're welcome to bring a dish to share, but it is you we want to see!





324 For All the Faithful Women



