

# Memorial Presbyterian Church

## SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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

September 22, 2024

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Faithful God,  
you do not promise  
that following you will be easy,  
but you teach us that your way  
is one of peace, gentleness, and mercy,  
of welcome for all.  
Guide us by your wisdom  
and inspire us to embrace this way of living,  
so that we might draw near to you. Amen.

PRELUDE

BRINGING THE LIGHT

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Vince Leseney

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and let all that is within me bless God's holy name.

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits:**

Who forgives and heals us, who crowns us with love and compassion,  
and satisfies our desires with good things,

**So that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.**

\*SONG OF PRAISE

For the Beauty of the Earth

Hymnal, No. 14

\*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Faithful God, giver of every good gift,  
your commands are so simple, but we find them hard to keep.  
We have not loved you with all that's in us, nor loved our neighbors un-  
grudgingly. We neglect our responsibility for the rights and needs of  
others. Forgive us, we pray, and continue your transforming work in us,  
by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*(Time of silent reflection)*

This is the 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

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

MISSION MATTERS

Charlotte Lovett

**PROCLAIMING THE WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Julie Forthman

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 8:8-12

Page No. 919

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 84:1-4, 10-12

How lovely is your dwelling-place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.

**Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.**

Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God, than to live in the tents of wickedness.**

For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.

**O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

ANTHEM

Autumn Carol

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-34

Page No. 800

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE

How Great a Debtor

Elizabeth Affsprung

SONG OF FAITH

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Hymnal, No. 475

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rom. 8:1, 28, 38, 39

**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.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response: ... God of abundant grace, **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

\*DOXOLOGY      Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow      Hymnal, No. 609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:  
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*SENDING SONG      The Church of Christ in Every Age      Hymnal, No. 320

\*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 September 29: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 and Psalm 124  
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 and Psalm 19:7-14; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50.

The Food & Shelter items of the month for September are bar soap and deodorant.  
**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.

**Food & Shelter** items are being collected in the box outside the office.

# For the Beauty of the Earth

14



1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the glo-ry of the skies,  
2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,  
3 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's de-light,  
4 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,  
5 For thy-self, best gift di-vine to the world so free-ly given;



for the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies:  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:  
for the mys-tic har-mo-ny link-ing sense to sound and sight:  
friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild:  
for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven:



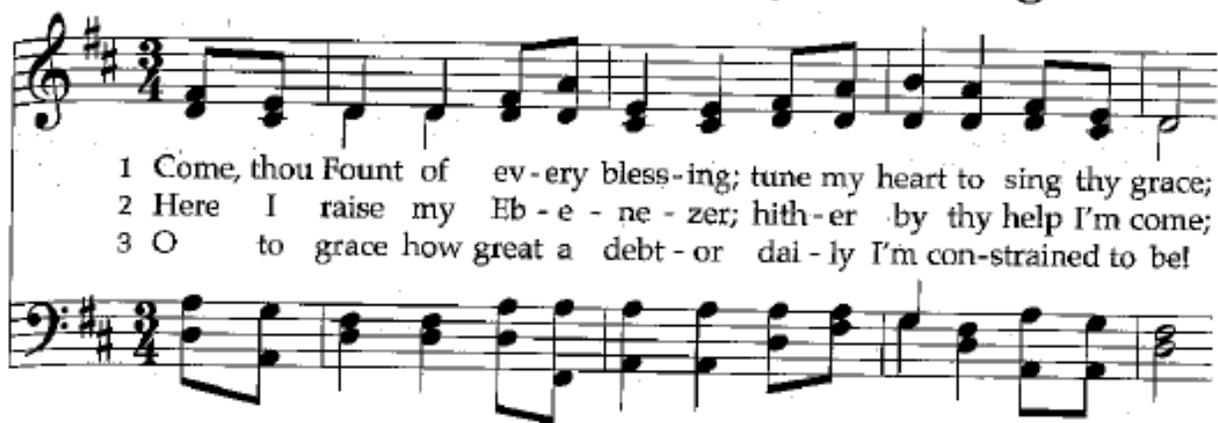
## Refrain



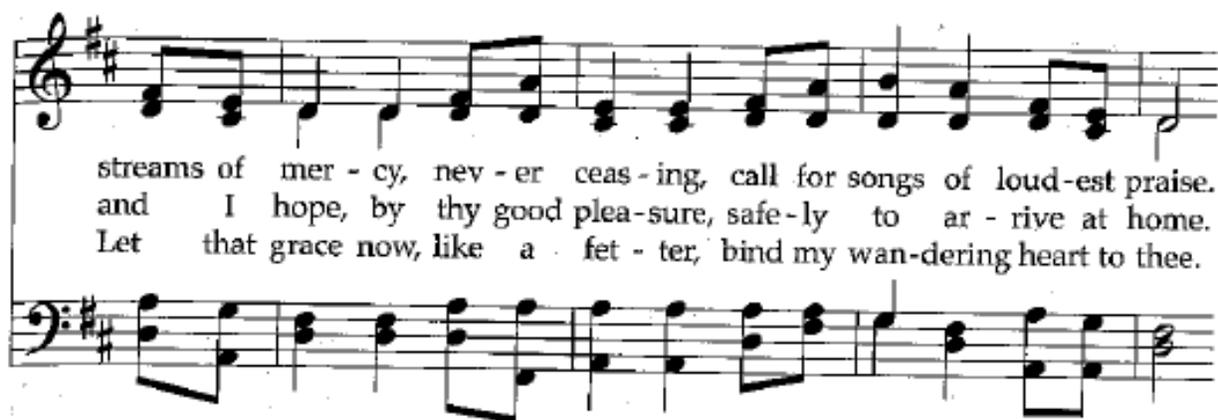
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.



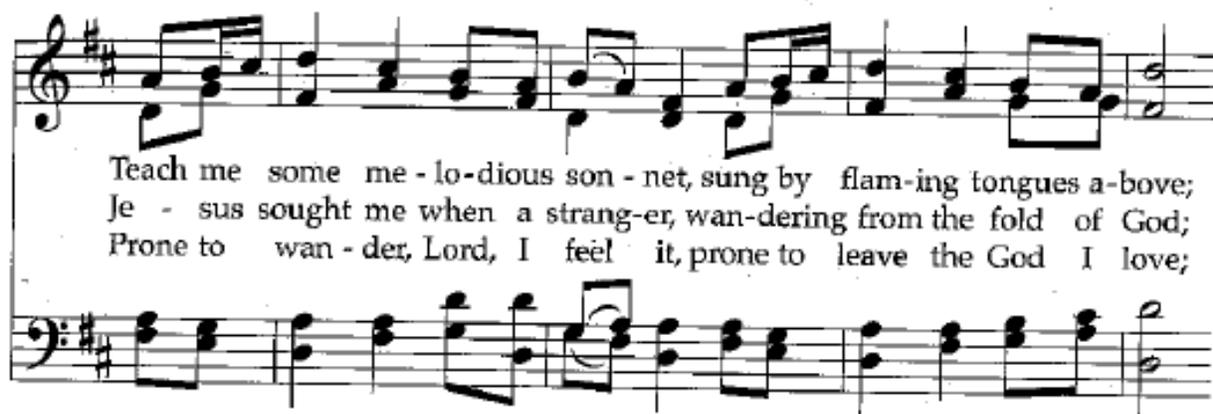
# Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing 475



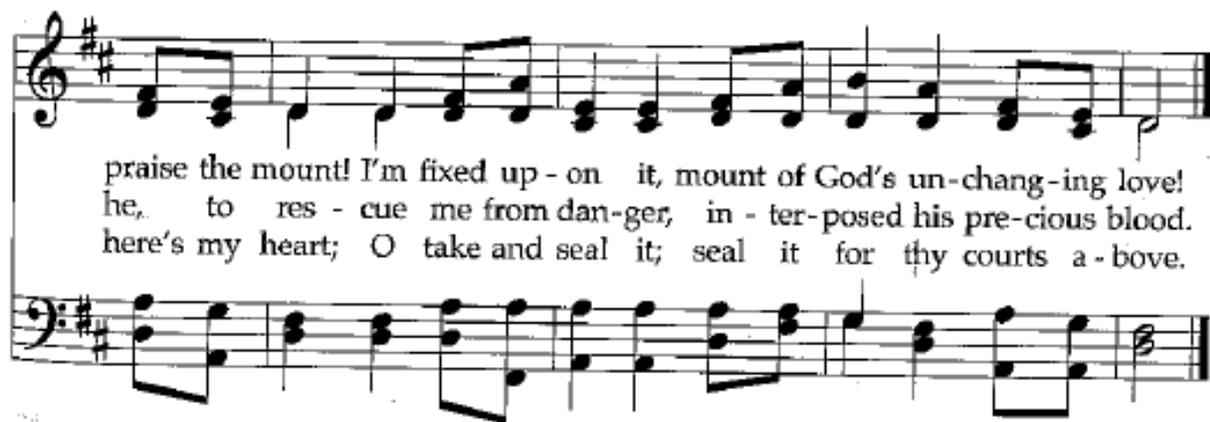
1 Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
2 Here I raise my Eb - e - ne - zer; hith-er by thy help I'm come;  
3 O to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to bel



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.  
Let that grace now, like a fet - ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me - lo-dious son - net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove;  
Je - sus sought me when a strang-er, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of God's un-chang-ing love!  
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter-posed his pre-cious blood.  
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

# 320 The Church of Christ in Every Age

1 The church of Christ in ev - ery age, be - set by  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
4 For Christ a - lone, whose blood was shed, can cure the  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
fe - ver in our blood, and teach us how to  
be - dience to our Lord: to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
share our bread and feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.  
out re - serve, and spread Christ's lib - er - at - ing word.