

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

6th Sunday after Pentecost

July 9, 2023

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Holy Mystery,
there are empty spaces in our hearts that only you can fill;
there is a longing that is only for you.
And you long for us.
Speak to us and let us hear your voice,
the voice of love that speaks our name.
Let us hear your call, and come. Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Trumpeting Dale Wood

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Vince Leseney

Loving God, we come to you because you invite us.

Gentle God, we come to you weary.

We are carrying heavy burdens— of work and family,
of world news and a struggling planet.

Jesus, give us rest.

You are gentle and humble in heart.

In you we find rest for our souls.

Set your yoke of love upon us, Jesus.

**Yoke us to your heart, for your yoke is easy,
and your burden is light. Alleluia!**

*SONG OF PRAISE Come, Christians Join to Sing Hymnal, No. 267

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Faithful One,
Despite our best efforts,
we have not lived up to what we can do
or who we can be.
Even when our intentions are good,
our actions cause harm.
Even when we want to follow you more closely,
we end up turning away.
We are at war with ourselves,
and only you can bring peace.
Still our souls, order our steps,
guide our feet back to your way.**
(Time of silent reflection)

God upholds all who are falling,
and raises up those who are bowed down.

**Jesus Christ rescues us from sin and death;
thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!**

*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

Melissa Gill

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 7:15-25a

Page No. 918

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 145:8-14

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power,

to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

Page No. 782

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

My Burden is Light

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Hymnal, No.418

*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. Let us pray in the Spirit, who helps us in our weakness,
interceding with sighs too deep for words.
(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 Love Divine All Loves Excelling

Hymnal, No. 366

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Toccata Giocosa

Gilbert Martin

*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 16: Genesis 25:19-34 and Psalm 119:105-112; Isaiah 55:10-13 and Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

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.

267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing

1 Come, Chris - tians, join to sing: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
2 Come, lift your hearts on high: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
3 Praise yet our Christ a - gain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Loud praise to Christ our King: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Let prais - es fill the sky: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
Life shall not end the strain: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;
On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good - ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra - cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!
sing - ing for - ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

418 Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling

1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
 2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
 3 O for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for

you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
 you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
 you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain
 watch - ing for you and for me.
 mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
 par - don for you and for me. "Come home, come home!"

You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,

Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.