

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Your covenant is all we seek, O God.
Silence in us any voice but yours this day.
Help us sort through the clutter
and distractions in our lives,
that we may be present, here, right now,
and worship you in joy and peace. Amen.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE Ariosto, Op. 50, No. 2 Joseph Willcox Jenkins

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP Vince Leseney

Together, we choose to serve God,
which means:

We choose love.
We choose hope.
We choose peace.
We choose kindness.
We choose welcome.
We choose justice.
We choose to serve God.

Let us worship.

*SONG OF PRAISE My Hope is Built on Nothing Less Hymnal, No. 353

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Let us Pray:

Holy and gracious God,
you are all light and wonder and glory.
You are our strength and our delight;
you give us all we need to live.
Yet we are distracted by all that glitters,
continually grasping for more.
Rather than trust in your provision,
we chase after our own happiness.
Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you.
Overwhelm us with your goodness
and cover us with grace,
for we know that you are the source of life,
the fount of all that is good.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

(Time of silent reflection)

Believe the gospel!

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

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Joan Cole

SCRIPTURE READING

I Thessalonians 4:13-18

Page No. 960

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalms 78:1-7

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.

He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;

that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

ANTHEM

Keep Your Lamps

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 25:1-13

Page No. 806

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Be Ready

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

Hymnal, No. 348

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**The risen Christ is the Savior of all people.
Those joined to him by faith
are set right with God
and commissioned to serve
as God's reconciling community.
Christ is head of this community, the church,
which began with the apostles
and continues through all generations.**
(Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.10)

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

Give Thanks

Hymnal, No. 647

Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. (repeat)

And now let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say, "We are rich
because of what the Lord has done for us!" (repeat)

Give thanks. Give thanks.

*DEDICATION PRAYER

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG

What is the World Like

Hymnal, No. 771

*TAKING LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE

Postludium

Gordon Young

*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 November 19: Judges 4:1-7 and Psalm 123; Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 and Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

The Food & Shelter items of the month for November **are gloves, good coats, stocking caps and hot hands. 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.

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less 353



1 My hope is built on noth-ing less than Je-sus' blood and
 2 When dark-ness seems to hide his face, I rest on his un-
 3 His oath, his cov-e-nant, his blood sup-port me in the
 4 When he shall come with trum-pet sound, O may I then in



right-teous-ness; I dare not trust the sweet-est frame, but
 chang-ing grace; in ev-ery high and storm-y gale; my
 whelm-ing flood; when all a-round my soul gives way, he
 him be found, dressed in his right-teous-ness a-lone, fault-



Refrain



whol-ly lean on Je-sus' name.
 an-chor holds with-in the veil. On Christ, the sol-id Rock, I stand; all
 then is all my hope and stay. less to stand be-fore the throne.



oth-er ground is sink-ing sand; all oth-er ground is sink-ing sand.



348 Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
2 Now re - demp - tion, long ex - pect - ed,
3 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore thee,

once for our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand,
comes in sol - emn splen - dor near; all the
high on thine e - ter - nal throne; Sav - ior,

thou - sand saints at - tend - ing join to
saints this world re - ject - ed thrill the
take the power and glo - ry; claim the

What Is the World Like

771

Capo 1: (G) (Em7) (C) (D)
A^b Fm7 D^b E^b

1 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 2 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 3 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 4 What is the world like when God's will is done?
 5 These are the sto - ries that Je - sus im - parts,

(Em) (C) (Am) (B7)
Fm D^b B^bm C7

Mus - tard seeds grow more than we can con - ceive:
 Wit - ness the wan - der - ing child com - ing home;
 No more is neigh - bor just al - ly or friend;
 Read - y for feast - ing, we watch through the night,
 filled with the Spir - it who joins us as one.

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

roots thread the soil; branch - es reach for the sun.
 watch as the par - ent breaks in - to a run.
 peace thrives in plac - es where once there was none.
 tend - ing our lamps till the new day's be - gun.
 Born through our voic - es, our hands, and our hearts,

(C) (Em7) (Am7) (D) (G)
D^b Fm7 B^bm7 E^b A^b

This is how God moves us each to be - lieve.
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.
 This is how God works when ri - val - ries end.
 This is how God read - ies us for the light.
 this is a new world where God's will is done.