

Memorial Presbyterian Church

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Eternal God, we are hungry for your truth.
Feed us with your Word.
Clear our minds; open our hearts; ready our hands:
to receive your Word and to digest it,
to hear your Word and to do it,
to love your Christ
and to follow in the deep joy and compassion of the life you give.
Speak, for our hearts are listening. Amen.

PRELUDE Prelude on You Satisfy the Hungry Heart C. Challan

BRINGING THE LIGHT

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A Mystery Beyond us calls to us.
A Beauty from deep within beckons.
Our busy minds can't perceive it.
Our human traditions can't contain it.
But it calls to us and we must answer.
It rises in us like a song, and we must sing.
So, Holy One, we gather to worship you.
**We gather to listen and wonder
and blossom with your grace. Amen.**

*SONG OF PRAISE Amazing Grace Hymnal, No. 649

*CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that our words and actions do not always line up. We are quick to confess our faith, but slow to live it. We sing praise to your name, but we pass by orphans and widows on the other side of the street. Change us, O God. By your grace, transform us. Root out the selfishness that hardens our hearts, and replace it with compassion and generosity. Empower us by your Spirit that we might be doers of your word and not hearers only. All this we pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, Amen.

(Time of silent reflection)

Listen and understand - the voice of the Beloved speaks to us, implanting the word of hope, the word of grace, and the word of forgiveness into our hearts.

We listen and understand. Every gift comes from God, especially the gifts of mercy and love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. 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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Charlotte Lovett

SCRIPTURE READING

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Page No. 544

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 15

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

**Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth
from their heart;**

who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up
a reproach against their neighbors;

**in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear
the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the inno-
cent.

Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:17-27

Page No. 980

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

A Look in the Mirror

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Let Us Break Bread Together

Hymnal, No. 525

*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,**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG For Everyone Born Hymnal, No. 769

*BLESSING AND CHARGE

*POSTLUDE Toccata 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.

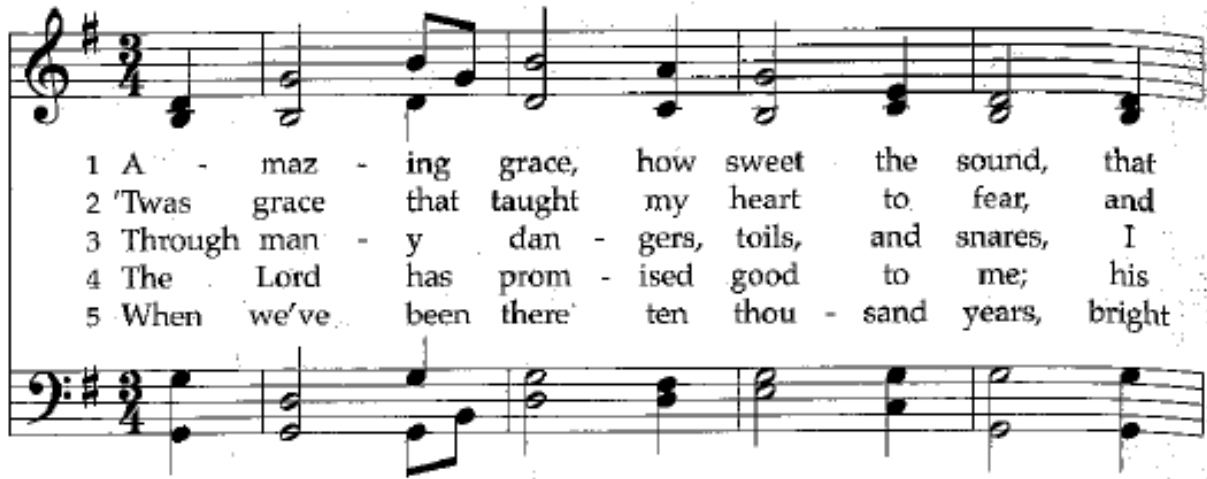
Lectionary Readings for September 8: Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 and Psalm 125; Isaiah 35:4-7a and Psalm 146; James 2:1-10, (11-13), 14-17; Mark 7:24-37;.

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

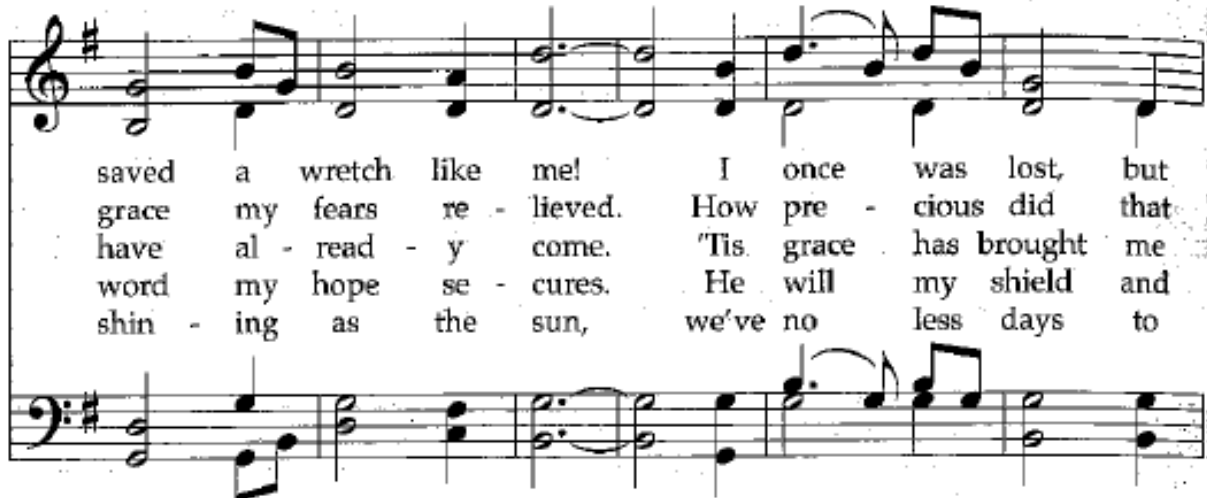
Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the head usher.

649 Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound



1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his
5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright



saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
grace my fears re - lieved. How pre - cious did that
have al - read - y come. 'Tis grace has brought me
word my hope se - cures. He will my shield and
shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to



now am found, was blind, but now I see.
grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
por - tion be as long as life en - dures.
sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

Let Us Break Bread Together 525

1 Let us break bread to- geth-er on our knees; (on our knees)
2 Let us drink wine to- geth-er on our knees; (on our knees)
3 Let us praise God to- geth-er on our knees; (on our knees)

let us break bread to- geth-er on our knees. (on our knees)
let us drink wine to- geth-er on our knees. (on our knees)
let us praise God to- geth-er on our knees. (on our knees)

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris- ing sun,

O Lord, have mer- cy on me. (on me)

769

For Everyone Born



1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,
 2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,
 3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,
 4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,
 5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,



for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,
 re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,
 a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
 a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,
 to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,



a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,
 with wis - dom and grace, di - vid - ing the pow - er,
 the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,
 in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,
 to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,



for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver - head,
 for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's fair,
 for young and for old, the right to be - long,
 for just and un - just, a new way to live,
 for ev - ery - one born, the right to be free,

Refrain

B All E E/G# A2 Bsus B

and God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice and

E E/G# A2 Bsus B

joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,

C#m C#m/B A2

God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,

Bsus B (E) Fine A2 E Bsus B

jus-tice and joy!