NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 19, 2025
11:00 AM



As a courtesy to others, please silence your phone.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

RINGING OF THE BELLS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH — Rev. Dr. Timothy T. Boggess

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE HOST SITE COMMISSIONING — National Response Team Members: Jim Reitz, Sheri Fry, and Bruce Wismer

from Psalm 121

CALL TO WORSHIP — Kim Schmeits

Lift up your eyes to the hills—
from where will our help come?
Our help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
The Lord is our keeper;
the Lord is our shade at our right hand.
The Lord will keep us from evil;
he will keep our lives.
The Lord will keep our goings out and our comings in
from this time on and forevermore.
Praise the Lord!

***HYMN 645** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* MIT FREUDEN ZART

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above,
the God of all creation,
the God of power, the God of love,
the God of our salvation.
With healing balm my soul is filled,
and every faithless murmur stilled:
to God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty power has made
God's gracious mercy keepeth;
by morning glow or evening shade
God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.
Within the kingdom of God's might,
lo! all is just and all is right:
to God all praise and glory!

3 The Lord is never far away,
but, through all grief distressing,
an ever-present help and stay,
our peace and joy and blessing,
as with a mother's tender hand
God gently leads the chosen band:
to God all praise and glory!

4 Thus all my toilsome way along
I sing aloud thy praises,
that all may hear the grateful song
my voice unwearied raises.
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart;
both soul and body, take your part:
to God all praise and glory!

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God,
you call us to pray without ceasing and not to lose heart,
yet we confess that our prayers are often weak and weary.
We grow impatient when answers do not come quickly.
We doubt your justice when the world feels unfair.
We give up hope when your timing does not match our own.
Forgive us, Lord.
Teach us to wait with hope, work with patience, and to pray with endurance, until your kingdom comes in its fullness.

(a moment for silent reflection)

***ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

***SONG OF JOY 623** (vv. 1 & 2) *I've Got Peace Like a River*

I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river;
I've got peace like a river, in my soul. (twice)

I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain;
I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT Brent Campbell

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Song of Solomon

ANTHEM *Set Me as a Seal* John Michael Trotta
(The Chancel Choir)

Set me as a seal upon your heart.
Set me as a seal upon your arm.
For love is as strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love,
neither can floods drown it.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

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SCRIPTURE READING Luke 18:1-8

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Repeat* Rev. Boggess

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER Kim Schmeits

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors:
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY *From All That Dwell Below the Skies* Paul Manz

***DOXOLOGY 608** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* PRAISE GOD (Hopson)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

from *The Study Catechism* (1988)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** Kim Schmeits

Does resurrection hope mean
that we don't have to take action
to relieve the suffering of this world?
No. When the great hope is truly alive,
small hopes arise even now for alleviating
the sufferings of the present time.
Reconciliation — with God, with one another, and with oneself —
is the great hope God has given to the world.
While we commit to God the needs of the whole world in our prayers,
we also know that we are commissioned to be instruments of God's peace.
When hostility, injustice and suffering are overcome here and now,
we anticipate the end of all things —
the life that God brings out of death,
which is the meaning of resurrection hope.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

***DEDICATION OF PLEDGES**

Gracious God, creator of the world, giver of all that is good,
bless the gifts and the pledges we bring to you today.
These pledges represent our work, our hopes, and our dreams,
and we offer them in thanksgiving for all we have received.
May they be the first fruits of all we have,
and not what we have left over.
May we see these pledges as a sacred offering,
and not a gift of obligation or exchange.
May we use them wisely for your service,
to reflect your love for this city and this world.
May they move us to be more faithful disciples
and energize us for lives of generosity.
In gratitude for the grace of God,
in the warmth of God's hospitality,
and in the spirit of the generosity embodied by Christ,
We dedicate these pledges to the work of God.
Thanks be to God!
Alleluia! Amen.

***HYMN 53** *O God, Who Gives Us Life* NOEL

1 O God, who gives us life and breath,
who shapes us in the womb,
who guards our lives from birth to death,
then leads us from the tomb:
deliver us from fears that kill
the life we have from you.
Help us to know your Spirit still
is making all things new.

2 O God, who calls your people out
to venture and to dare,
to plumb the bleak abyss of doubt
and find you even there:
when we despair in wandering
through wastes of empty lies,
refresh us with the living spring
of hope that never dies.

3 O God of covenant and law,
revealed in cloud and flame,
your mighty deeds evoke our awe;
we dare not speak your name.
Yet we by faith are drawn to you
and will your people prove,
as on our hearts you write anew
the covenant of love.

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** Rev. Boggess

POSTLUDE Improvisation on *We Will Go Out With Joy* Steven Phillips

The postlude concludes our worship today. It's the custom of this congregation to sit and enter into this moment with gratitude and celebration.

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