



Celebrating 150 Years of Proclamation

Community

Presbyterian Church

Seventeenth Sunday of Ordinal Time
27 September 2026

GATHERING

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

(One) The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord!

(All) She is His new creation, by water and the Word.

(One) From heaven He came and sought us to be His holy bride.

(All) With His own blood He bought us, and for our lives He died!

(One) Elect from every nation, yet one over all the earth, our charter of salvation:

(All) One Lord, one faith, one birth.

(One) Come us worship the God of our salvation, the Lord over all the earth, and the one foundation upon which we stand.

(All) Come, let us worship our King.

Opening Prayer

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 25:1-9

(One) To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.

(All) O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

(One) Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

(All) Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths.

(One) Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

(All) Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.

(One) Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!

(All) Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.

(One) He leads the humble in what is right and teaches the humble his way.

***Hymn (G-81)** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

(1) Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God.

God, whose word cannot be broken,
formed thee for a blest abode.

On the rock of ages founded,
what can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded,
thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

(2) Round each habitation hovering,
see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering,
showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna
which God gives them when they pray.

(3) See, the streams of living waters,
springing from eternal love,
well supply thy sons and daughters
and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
ever flows, their thirst to assuage?
Grace, so like the Lord the giver,
never fails from age to age.

Prayer of Confession

(All) Jesus Christ, you are the one foundation upon which the church is established. We come to you today, trusting in the forgiveness you granted us through your death on the cross. Forgive us when we place ourselves before your church and its call to proclaim. Forgive us when our desire for liberty is more important to us than submitting to You. Forgive us when we choose ourselves, over our call to serve others. Grant us the assurance of your grace and forgiveness, that we may be your light in this world. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

PROCLAMATION

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

New Testament Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Gospel Reading

Matthew 21:23-32

Sermon

***Hymn (G-215)**

What Wondrous Love Is This

(1) What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
what wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

(2) When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!

(3) To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
to God and to the Lamb who is the great I AM,
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

(4) And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.

RESPONSE

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. **I believe** in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead. **I believe** in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

Offertory

***Doxology & Prayer of Dedication**

***Passing of the Peace**

Prayers of the People

(One) In Your mercy ...

(All) ... Hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer (sins/trespass)

SENDING

Charge

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

Community Presbyterian Church

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Worship Leader: Amy Humphrey

SCRIPTURES

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the LORD came to me:

18:2

What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"?

18:3

As I live, says the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel.

18:4

Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins who shall die.

18:25

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

18:26

When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die.

18:27

Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

18:28

Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die.

18:29

Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

18:30

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin.

18:31

Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel?

18:32

For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Philippians 2:1-13

If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,

2:2

make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

2:3

Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

2:4

Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others.

2:5

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

2:6

who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped,

2:7

but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human,

2:8

he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

2:9

Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name,

2:10

so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

2:11

and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

2:12

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling,

2:13

for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21:23-32

When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

21:24

Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

21:25

Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?'

21:26

But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet."

21:27

So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

21:28

"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'

21:29

He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went.

21:30

The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go.

21:31

Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

21:32

For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.