

# The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

September 13, 2020

15th Sunday after Pentecost



**Preparation** *“An individual Christian is an oxymoron. No one is an island. The universal dominion of the Lord precludes the universal dominion of the individual. We cannot be both “in the Lord” and “in ourselves.” Fred Craddock*

**Prelude**

*Prelude on Abbot’s Leigh*

Arr. Michael Burkhardt

## Greeting and Announcements of the Church

### Call to Worship:

One: No one is an island. We are all joined in Christ Jesus.

All: **Who else is like you, loving God?**

**Who is like you: beautiful in holiness, awesome in all the things you do for us.**

One: No one lives by themselves; no one dies by themselves.

Whether we live or die we are the Lord’s.

All: **The Lord is my strength and my song,**

**and he has become my salvation.**

**Let us worship God!**

### Prayer of Confession:

One: We gather in Christ’s name.

All: **We claim the promises of Christ: grace, peace, mercy, and abundant life with God.**

One: So let us confess our sin before Almighty God, and then start this day as people who are forgiven and freed to serve God and neighbor. Let us pray together:

All: **God you have given each of us many gifts, but sometimes we cannot recognize what gift we have that we can share, so we hide it under a bushel.**

**God you remind us that all gifts are needed, but sometimes we let ourselves be convinced that some gifts are more special than others.**

**God you call us to work, to live, to love together as parts of one body, but sometimes we decide that membership in the body is limited by our understandings.**

**God, for the times we have ignored or mislabeled Your gifts,  
for those times we have cut someone off from the body,  
We offer words of repentance; we ask for forgiveness and grace.**

*(Silent prayers of confession)*

### Promise of the Gospel

One: God is the giver of MANY gifts.

God is the Creator of the ONE body.

God is slow to anger and quick to forgive.

God helps us to share and honor the gifts of all,  
God helps us to heal the wounds and reunite the body.  
We are forgiven, loved, and accepted.

**All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen**

**Hymn #309** *Come, Great God of All the Ages, vs. 1-4* [Abbot's Leigh]

**Children's Lesson** Sue Schnackenberg

**Scripture Lesson** Matthew 14: 1-12

**Sermon** "From Commandments to Commitments"  
Rev. Peggy Casteel Huston

**Communion**  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Words of Institution  
Communion Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

**Special Music** *Wade in the Water* African-American Spiritual  
The McDaniel Quintet Arr. Arlene McDaniel  
Arlene McDaniel, Piano; Jon Gewitz, Saxophone  
Hank Horton, Bass; Ian LeVine, Drums; Laure Rongo, Flute

**The Offering**

**Minute for Mission** Bill Given  
Advent House

**Hymn #722** *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak, vs. 1-4* [Canonbury]

**Benediction** Rev. Peggy Huston

**Postlude** *Rise, O Children of Salvation* Thomas Bliss

**Liturgist:** Rev. Alice Fleming Townsley

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*Rev. Peggy Casteel-Huston* , Interim Minister  
*Rev. Alice Fleming Townley*, Assistant Pastor  
*Dr. Marlene Brewbaker*, Organist  
*Connor Koppin*, Choir Director  
*Irene Shutt*, Handbell Choir Director  
*Sue Schnackenberg*, CE Director for Youth & Children  
*Edward Ennen*, Sexton  
*Anna Thiel*, Office Manager