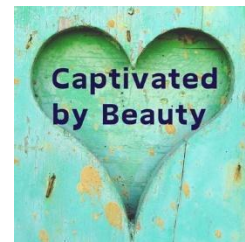


The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
July 14, 2024
Eighth Sunday After Pentecost



Preparation: “After having the privilege of flying shuttle missions and seeing Earth from the vantage point of space, I’ll never forget observing our fragile planet from above with no visible political borders, only those established by the oceans and mountains and other geography. It’s a reminder that our planet belongs to everyone ...”

– NASA Administrator Charles Bolden, 2014

Gathering As a People of God

Prelude

Prelude On a Welsh Tune

Llangloffan

Marlene Brewbaker, organ

Setting by Paul Karvonen

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Centering Our Minds and Candle Lighting

*You are invited to a moment of quiet rest,
a time of slowing the pace of your body and mind so that the spirit can settle.
We invite those at home to light a candle and become centered for worship.*

Opening Prayer

Teddy Krawczyk, liturgist

One: Holy One, pause us for this moment, bear us up in this time, hold us for eternity. We offer ourselves in connection with you. We allow ourselves this love from you. We release ourselves into your presence.

All: Amen

Engaging Our Bodies

Teddy Krawczyk, liturgist

One: This morning we celebrate our world, recognizing our common humanity as children of God. Let us share our love for God and the world by adding hand motions as we sing the first verse of *He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands*.

All: He’s got the whole world in his hands.

He’s got the whole world in his hands.

He’s got the whole world in his hands.

He’s got the whole world in his hands.

*** Hymn #756**

O God of Every Nation, vs. 1-4

[Llangloffan]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: God never forgets God’s promises. God’s covenant endures in each new generation. We are free to speak the truth about our lives because God’s faithfulness embraces us as we examine our hearts.

All: God of Mercy, we give you thanks and praise for the work and person of Jesus Christ. Through his words, Jesus challenged us to seek the best in those we encounter. Through his actions, he taught us to embrace those from varied backgrounds.

Silent prayer of gratitude

God of mercy, we too often forget the vision of community to which Jesus called us. As individuals and as a nation, we place power before justice. We tolerate inequity as long as we are comfortable. Forgive us.

Silent prayer of confession

God of mercy, we confess that we fail to recognize that when we deny our own belovedness, we deny the belovedness of others. We also fail to recognize that when we deny the belovedness of others, we deny our own belovedness too. Forgive us.

Silent prayer of confession

God of mercy, we claim Christ came for all the world, yet the world we have in mind is much smaller than the world Christ desires. It is not the world of "all the peoples of the earth," but only some of them—those who think as we think, feel as we feel, worship as we worship, and live as we live. Forgive us.

Silent prayer of confession

God of mercy, we celebrate that you have made us in your image and we commit to seeing your image in others throughout our world. Grant us the wisdom and grace to more fully and faithfully represent the Christ you have sent as our guide and our savior.

Silent prayer of commitment (Amen)

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

One: This is what good news means: There is nothing we can do to make God love us any more and there is nothing we can do to make God love us any less. Beloved of God, know and believe:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

One: It is as a forgiven people that we share the peace of Christ. The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you. *Please greet your fellow worshippers in ways you feel comfortable.*

* Act of Praise #581

Gloria Patri

The Word

Prayer of Illumination

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Enlightening God, the unfolding of your Word gives light and provides wisdom to all who seek your truth. Open our minds and hearts by the presence of your Holy Spirit, that the mystery of your heavenly realm is made evident here on earth. Amen.

New Testament Reading

Matthew 5:13-16 (CEB)

Teddy Krawczyk, liturgist

Children's Message

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 147:1-11 (CEB)

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Reflection

Captivated by Beauty: Falling in Love with the World Pastor Lisa Schrott

Praying the Hours

Morning Prayer: West Coast of the United States & Canada

Midmorning Prayer: Eastern & Central United States

Midday Prayer: Caribbean, Central & South America

Midafternoon Prayer: Europe

Evening Prayer: Middle East & Africa

Nighttime Prayer: Asia & Oceania

Responding to the Word

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation *Building Our Offering Tree: Prayers for the World*

Write a prayer for the world on one of the leaves provided. This may be a general prayer or for a specific situation. If you would like your prayer to be read during the Prayers of the People, place it in the basket provided. Otherwise, please place it directly on the tree. For those worshipping online, you may email your prayer for the world to Pastor Lisa, and we will add it to the tree. You may place your financial offering in the basket next to the tree. Please signal an usher if

you need assistance

Offertory

Prayer from Hansel and Gretel

Engelbert Humperdinck

Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello

Marlene Brewbaker, piano

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Teddy Krawczyk, liturgist & Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Lord in your mercy

All: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

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.

Sent Out As a People of God

*** Hymn #79**

Light Dawns on a Weary World, vs. 1-3

[Temple of Peace]

* **Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Trumpet Tune in D Major

Henry Purcell

* *Please rise in body or spirit*

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Mickey Martin & Barbara Scott for providing snacks and to Dave Rumminger for taking care of the coffee.

Flowers: The flowers beautifying our sanctuary today are given by Mickey Martin.

Play and Pray July: No education hour through August 4. Enjoy a time of extended fellowship this morning. Walk the labyrinth. Enjoy the playground. Invite someone to join you for a walk or lunch.

Next Week July 21, 2024: Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 2:9-11 and Psalm 65

Worship Prompt: Wonder

Inspiration for the service, order of worship and some liturgy are adapted from *Beguiled by Beauty* by Dr. Marcia McFee <https://worshipdesignstudio.com/beauty>. A portion of the Prayer of Confession is adapted from *Prayer for One Voice* by Ministry Matters. It is available online at <https://www.ministrymatters.com/worship/entry/3878/worship-elements-2-june-2-2013#axzz2TrliqFM6>

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Rebecca Mattern (she/her), Interim Director of Faith Formation
Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist
Westin Sorrel (he/him), Chancel Choir Director
Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director
Edward Ennen, Sexton
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