

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos
February 16, 2025
Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany



Gathering As a People of God

Preparation: "I am human because you are human. My humanity is caught up in yours. And if you are dehumanized, I am dehumanized." – Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in an interview with the "PBS NewsHour," following his 1984 Nobel Peace Prize Award.

Invitation to Our Shared Ministry

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Prelude

Afro-American Suite for Flute, Cello and Piano Undine Smith Moore

I. Nobody Knows the Trouble I See, Lord.

Brothers Will You Pray for Me and Help Me to Drive Ole Satan Away

Gaile Griffore, flute; Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello; Connie Detjen, piano

Lighting the Candle

*** Call to Worship** (Adapted from Psalm 1 and Jeremiah 17) Barbara Given, Liturgist

One: When we turn our hearts away from God and toward ourselves, putting trust in our own strength,

All: we become like a shrub in the desert, living in a parched, salty place.

One: When we trust in God, when our trust is God,

All: we are like a tree planted by water. Our roots go deep, we are ever-green; even in a drought we are not anxious, but bear fruit, full and beautiful, gifts of the God who made us.

One: Baptized and freed, grounded in love,

All: let us worship God.

*** Hymn #816**

If Thou But Trust in God to Guide Thee, vs. 1-3

[Wer Nur Den Lieben Gott]

Prayer of Confession

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. So let us be honest and confess what separates us from God and our neighbors, trusting in God's desire to forgive and renew.

All: Merciful God, your call to discipleship is demanding. You call us to reorder our lives by the priorities of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Yet we still pass by the ones you especially notice: people who are poor and hungry and those who society deems less

respectable. We do not always stand with those who are excluded. We can be too comfortable with the way things are, becoming complacent, even complicit with injustice. Forgive us, O God, and turn us back to your gospel. Help us choose your priorities over the priorities of the world and your values over the world's values.
Silent prayer. Amen.

Promise of the Gospel and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: Because Christ has been raised from the dead, sin and death do not have the last word!
Our faith is not in vain! Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we are forgiven
and set free to live for God and neighbor.

All: Thanks be to God! Alleluia. Amen!

One: As a forgiven people, let us greet each other, sharing the peace of Christ. The peace of
Christ be with you.

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

Barbara Given, Liturgist

O God, your Word is like water to the root of the tree. Let your Word now flow into us so that
we might flourish—bearing gospel fruit for a hungry world. In the name of Jesus, the Living
Word, we pray. Amen.

Children's Message

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 17:5-10

Barbara Given, Liturgist

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

New Testament Scripture

Luke 6:17-19

Pastor Lisa Schrott

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Who is Jesus? One Who Heals

Pastor Lisa Schrott

*** Affirmation of Faith** (From: The PC(USA) Book of Confessions, 11.2)

One: With the whole church, let us confess our faith sharing together in a portion of the
Brief Statement of Faith:

**All: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and**

**deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,
ting with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.**

Responding to the Word

Minute for Gratitude

Edgewood Village

Tom Schaberg

Offering

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Invitation

Offertory

Chorale Prelude on *If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee*

Georg Boehm

***Doxology #606**

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People

Barbara Given, liturgist

One: Lord, in your mercy.

All: **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

in unison

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 #767**

Together We Serve, vs. 1-4

[San Anselmo]

*** Benediction**

Pastor Lisa Schrott

Postlude

Afro-American Suite for Flute, Cello and Piano Undine Smith Moore

II. I Heard the Preaching of the Elder, Preaching the Word of God

Gaile Griffore, flute; Barbara Fretwell-Cooke, cello; Connie Detjen, piano

The liturgy this morning is adapted from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 1*, 012.

Ushers: Brett & Lynette Cone, Joel & Deb Major

This Morning's Fellowship Team: Thank you to Edward Ennen for preparing coffee, to Gary VanKempen for washing dishes, and to Parish Life Committee for supplying the birthday cake to celebrate members and friends born in February.

All Ages Education Hour: Jesus as a Healer. We will explore Jesus' acts of healing through art and drama.

Next Week: February 23, 2025 Youth Sunday

Scripture: Psalm 37; Luke 6:27-38

Education Hour:

Children through 4th grade: (Room 116)

Middle School Youth 5th-8th grade: Middle School Room (107)

Adult & High School Youth: Intergenerational Bible Study (Board Room)

Adult Education: Guest Speaker: Arlene McDaniel - The Jazz of New Orleans

You are in an active recording environment, and your likeness may be captured in photographs and videos. By entering, you acknowledge giving consent to The Presbyterian Church of Okemos to take, own and use images containing your likeness at its sole discretion in perpetuity. If you do not wish to convey this consent, please contact a staff member immediately.

The Presbyterian Church of Okemos

2258 Bennett Road, Okemos, Michigan 48864

(517) 349-9536

Website: <https://okemospres.org>

Email: office@okemospres.org

<https://www.instagram.com/okemospres/>

<https://facebook.com/OkemosPresbyterian>



Rev. Dr. Lisa Schrott (she/her), Pastor/Head of Staff

Rebecca Mattern (she/her), Coordinator of Pastoral Care & Youth Ministry

Dr. Marlene Brewbaker, Organist

Westin Sorrel (he/him), Chancel Choir Director

Irene Shutt, Handbell Choir Director

Edward Ennen, Sexton

Anna Thiel, Office Manager

Gabrielle Shelton (she/her), Media Specialist