



Mountain Shadows Presbyterian Church

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

Sunday, September 17, 2017
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00 AM

Gather in God's Name

*Thank you for silencing all mobile phones. * Stand as you are able. Please sign the fellowship pad, found on the chair on the center aisle. When all have signed, pass the pad back to the center.*

Prelude

Me and God

Josh Turner

Ken McAllister & Chuck Lamkin

The Prelude will begin at 10:00. Worshipers are requested to conclude conversation and listen prayerfully as spiritual preparation to hear God's Word in worship.

The Lighting of the Christ Candle and the Opening Prayer

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors

Introit

What is This Place

Huub Oosterhuis

Call to Worship (responsive, adapted from Romans 14:7-9)

Worship Co-Leader: Pamela Schultz

The truth is that none of us live for ourselves. And none of us die for ourselves.

For if we live, we live for the Lord. If we die, we die for the Lord.

So in both life and death, we belong to the Lord.

Jesus, the Anointed One, the Liberating King,

died and returned to life to make this a reality:

through his death and resurrection,

he became Lord of the living and the dead. Amen!

*Hymn #822

When We Are Living

Call to Confession (adapted from Romans 14:10-12)

How is it that we continue to judge our brothers?

How is it possible for us to look down on our sisters?

We will all stand before the judgment seat of God.

For it is written, "As I live, so I promise," says the Lord,

"every knee will bow down to Me. Every tongue will confess to God."

So every one of us should expect to give an account for our own lives to God.

Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

How many times, O God?
How many times have we fallen short in loving you?
How many ways have we neglected to love our neighbors as ourselves?
How many times have we made our confession to you?
No matter how many times we fumble and fail
and pray for the strength to do better next time,
you forgive us and give us yet another chance.
Although we miss the mark,
although we hold grudges and withhold forgiveness from others,
you never do.
In mercy, O God, you forgive us more times than we sin.
In silence, we confess again our need for your forgiveness.
(Please pause to offer a silent prayer.)
Lord, once again, you have wiped the record clean.
Now help us, we pray, to go and do likewise.
As you have forgiven us, may we forgive
those who have sinned against us.
From the cycle of guilt and retribution, free us at last.
We ask this in Jesus' strong name. Amen.
(Quiet prayer and reflection)

Sung Response

Tune: 447, We Are Forgiven

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God!

Words of Assurance (responsive, adapted from Psalm 103:10-13)

How great is God's love for all who honor God?
Greater than the distance between heaven and earth!
How far has the Lord taken our sins from us?
Farther than the distance from east to west!
Just as loving parents are kind to their children,
the Lord is kind to all who love God.
We are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

*Sung Response

Tune: 2276

Glory to God in the highest!
Sing glory to God!
Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth!

***The Passing of Christ's Peace**

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you...**and also with you.**
You may turn to your neighbor and share a sign of Christ's peace.

Special Music

At The Name of Jesus
Mountain Shadows Choir

C. Walker

Proclaim God's Word

Gospel Reading

Matthew 18:21-35 (N.T. pg. 19; lg. print pg. 24)

Sermon

Let's Not Do the Numbers Rev. Rachel Srubas

***Hymn of Affirmation #445**

God, How Can We Forgive

Respond to God

Invitation to Offering

Standing firm and holding to the tradition we were taught,
let us offer to God tithes, offerings and gifts from our grateful hearts
in order for the work of love and justice
to continue in our community and in our world.

The Offertory

How Firm a Foundation American Folk Melody

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Christ, all people here below.
Praise Holy Spirit ever more.
Praise God, triune, whom we adore! Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication (unison)**

The gifts that sometimes seem, in our sight, to be nothing, O God,
you bless and increase to fill your world with goodness.
Where you dwell, where your Spirit abides, prosperity will abound.
We are happy to offer these gifts to you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Give Thanks to God

The Sharing of Joys and Concerns

*You are invited to speak your prayer requests first on behalf of the wider world;
then for those close to you, and for yourself.*

The People's Prayer and 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.

Go in God's Name

*Hymn #354

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

*Charge and Benediction

*Postlude

Glory, Glory Hallelujah!

American Melody

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.



Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8:15am – 1:15pm