



**Mountain Shadows
Presbyterian Church**

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

**Sunday, September 16, 2018, 10:00 AM
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

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

What a Friend

Arr. J. Schrader

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Opening Prayer

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors

Celebrating Mountain Shadows' New Parish Associate, Rev. Denise Edwards

Introit

Listen to the Word

Anon.

Call to Worship (responsive, adapted from Psalm 19:1-4)

Worship Co-Leader: Dan Linegar

Heaven is declaring God's glory;
the sky is proclaiming God's handiwork.

**One day pours forth good news to the next,
and one night informs another of the news.**

There's no speech, no words; their voices can't be heard,
but their sound extends throughout the world;
their words reach the ends of the earth.

**May our praise of God reach the ears of the Holy One,
the Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer whom we worship!**

***Hymn # 39**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Call to Confession (adapted from Psalm 19: 12-13a)

Can anyone know what they've accidentally done wrong?
God clears us of any unknown sin
and also saves us from willful sins. Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God Almighty, we trust in you; we revere you.
And yet, we have not always served you faithfully.
Our lives are anything but blameless.
You invite us to see with a new vision,
but we continue in timeworn ways.
You call us to set aside our own desires
so that we may embrace *your* desires,
but we are stubborn and often refuse to let go.
Lord, hear the honest prayers of our hearts,
and in your mercy, forgive us and make us new.
(Please pause to offer silent prayer.)
Guide us, O God, to find our place, following Christ.
Teach us to take up our crosses
and follow wherever Jesus leads,
we pray in his name. Amen.
(Quiet prayer and reflection)

Sung Response

Tune: 175 Lafferty

Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
Hallelu, Hallelujah!!

Words of Assurance (responsive, adapted from Isaiah 50:8-9)

Who will bring judgment against us?
Look! The Lord God helps us.
Thanks be to God!
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed. 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.

Choir Anthem

Jesus Take All of Me/Just As I Am
Mountain Shadows Choir

Arr. H. Sorenson

Proclaim God's Word

Gospel Reading

Mark 8:27-38

(N.T. pg. 41; lg. print pg. 53)

Response

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Cross at the Heart of this Faith

Rev. Rachel Srubas

***Hymn of Affirmation # 726** *Will You Come and Follow Me*

Respond to God

Invitation to the Offering

We long for freedom from injustice and brokenness;
we long for freedom from everything that holds us back from God
and the new life God promises.

This is what the ministry of this church is about:

journeying with God, remembering God's goodness each step of the way,
feeling God's presence with us.

Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

The Offertory

Blessed Assurance

Crosby & Knapp

***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)

O God, we return to you a portion of the abundance you have given to us.

We dedicate all that we give, to your loving purposes:

bringing in those who have been cast out;

standing strong on behalf of those who are weak;

speaking out with your Word of joy and justice for all people.

May your loving realm increase! 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.

Give Thanks to God

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 #623

I've Got Peace Like a River

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Forever/Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Arr. C. Tornquist

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.