



**Mountain Shadows
Presbyterian Church**

Centered in Christ, Caring for Community

Sunday, September 23, 2018, 10:00 AM
The Twenty-Fifth 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 *My Jesus, I Love Thee* Arr. Johnnie Dean

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Opening Prayer

Welcome, Announcements, Introductions of Guests and Visitors

Introit *God Welcomes All* John Bell

Call to Worship (responsive, inspired by Psalm 1)

Worship Co-Leader: Rev. Denise Edwards

We rejoice and praise God's holy name today,
because God has kept us from a destructive path.
We give thanks because Christ's word gives us hope.
May we reflect on Christ's word at all times.
God's spirit is the Source of deep seated faith,
and our spirits are refreshed by the presence of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

***Hymn # 457** *How Happy Are the Saints of God*

Call to Confession (adapted from Mark 9:35-37)

Jesus sat down, called the twelve, and said to them,
"Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all."
Then he took a little child and put the child among them;
and taking the child in his arms, he said to them,
"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me,
and whoever welcomes me
welcomes not me but the one who sent me."
Let us pray.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Holy Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer of all life,
you have first place in all creation, in this faith community,
and in our personal lives.**

**Make us aware of any ways that we have tried
to put ourselves in front of others, and forgive us, we pray.**

Help us act with self-respect, but not with selfishness.

Help us live with humility, but not with shame.

**You have made us the people we are,
and in Jesus Christ, you offer us grace and new life.**

We open our hearts to receive your renewing mercies now.

(Please pause to offer silent prayer.)

Each of us is your beloved child, O God.

Jesus has welcomed us into your embrace.

May we be as welcoming to others.

**When we struggle to get along with others,
may the example of Jesus**

remind us you love others as much as you love us.

**And may the grace of Jesus Christ help us through our conflicts
and lead us in the way of peace. 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)

No questions asked, Jesus receives us with open arms.

He sees the beauty and the brokenness in us,

and treats us with kindness that heals and redeems us.

**Our falterings and failings are more than overcome
by the One who is our Savior and our Lord.**

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven,

and given yet another day to live by God's grace. 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

Order My Steps In Your Word
Mountain Shadows Choir

Glenn Burleigh

Proclaim God's Word

Gospel Reading

James 3:13-4:3 and 7-8a (N.T. pg. 216; lg. print pg. 279)

Response

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

Sermon

Those Who Make Peace

Rev. Rachel Srubas

***Hymn of Affirmation # 753** *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*

Respond to God

Invitation to the Offering (based on Psalm 54:6)

Hear the words of the Psalmist:

*With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O Lord, for it is good.*

Even now, we can glorify God's name by adding our offerings
to all good gifts given in a spirit of gratitude and praise.

The Offertory

As a Child Rests

C. Walker

***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)

**For giving us life,
for forgiving us when we don't live as you have taught us;
for giving us another chance to receive and share your love;
for more blessings than we can ever count, O God, we thank you.
To your gracious, peaceful purposes,
we dedicate these offerings in the name of Jesus. 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 #738

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

Rinkart & Kruger

The Worship has ended. The Service begins.