



August 28, 2022 - 10:30 AM
Proper 17

Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: **And also with you!**

L: This is the day that the Lord has made;

P: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Prelude

Blessed Assurance

arr. Duane Funderburk

Dr. Craig Ralston, piano; Katie Meyers, violin

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

L: Please stand as you are able for our Call to Worship.
God calls us to service

Heb. 13:1-2

P: **rather than honor.**

L: God calls us to love the unknown,

P: **rather than the familiar.**

L: We come to this time of worship,

P: **trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,**

L: who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

P: **Let us worship God!**

(Please remain standing)

Opening Hymn #28

To God Be the Glory

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

(Please be seated)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, forgive us for we exalt ourselves
and mock the humble.**

Luke 14:1, 7-14

**We choose to believe we are self-sufficient
rather than trust in your strength.**

**Open us to your spirit,
that we might serve all people
without regard to the outcome,
devoting ourselves to your honor alone.
We pray in Jesus' name.**

(Silent Confession)

L: Amen.

(Please stand as you are able)

Gloria Patri, Hymn #670

GLORIA PATRI (GRETOREX)

Declaration of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

(Please be seated)

Anthem

Come Christians, Join to Sing!

arr. Randall Kempton

Dr. Craig Ralston & Ezra Hawthorne, piano; Katie Meyers, violin;

Lyndi Peacock, cajón

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

I Know That My Savior Loves Me

D. Bell/T.J. Creamer

Gina, Kirsi, Norah & Micah Steverson, vocals; Katie Meyers, violin

(Please stand as you are able)

Doxology, Hymn #668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

The Word

Reading of Scripture

Hebrews 10:19-25

¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please remain seated)

Response, Hymn #539

With All My Heart

LANGLEY

Prayer for Illumination

Reading of Scripture

Ephesians 5:8-21

⁸ for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light ⁹ (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), ¹⁰ and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. ¹³ But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴ for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

“Between the Bookends”

The Rev. Dr. Dan Storvick

(Please stand as you are able)

Hymn of the Day #432

Speak, O Lord

SPEAK, O LORD

(Please remain standing)

Affirmation of Faith

**WE BELIEVE in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**WE BELIEVE in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**WE BELIEVE in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

WE BELIEVE in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Prayers of the People, concluded with 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.**

Sending

Benediction

Postlude

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High arr. Phillip Keveren
Dr. Craig Ralston, piano; Katie Meyers, violin

Assisting in Worship:

Liturgist: Beth Wingate

Ushers: Beth Wingate, Sharon Tootle, Sandy Stamper, Jean Risdon

Larry & Shirley Culver, Mike Vest & Lolly Platt

Greeter and Coffee Fellowship Coordinator: Karen Thorstad

Mountain Reformed Church

Mailing address: 1925 Timber Point West, Prescott, AZ 86303

www.mountainreformed.org

Tom Ruloff, President: truloff@yahoo.com; 810-459-8091

Sharon Tom, Vice President: sharonctom@yahoo.com; 415-722-9789

Linda Hoover, Treasurer: linda@lindahooveraccounting.com; 928-499-0409

Larry Culver, Director at Large: lgculverpc@gmail.com; 623-229-6137

Ryan Gastonguay, Director at Large/Minister of Music: ryan@mountainreformed.org; 928-277-6428

Between the Bookends
Hebrews 10:19-25; Ephesians 5:18-21
Pastor Dan Storvick

Attend to Your _____ Relationship.

Matthew 6:33 *Seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Joshua 24:15 *Choose this day whom you will serve . . . as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.*

Ask Yourself: With what level of confidence can I say I am in a living relationship of trusting faith with Jesus Christ as my Savior and Lord? How often, if at all, do I renew and remind myself of that relationship?

Include _____ in Your Life.

Ephesians 6:18 *Stay alert and be persistent in your prayer.* (Also 1 Thessalonians 5:17)

Philippians 4:6- *Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Ask Yourself: Prayer for me is _____. (E.g.: A chore, vital link, emergency only, constant, for others, praise, thanksgiving, confession, occasional, constant, rote, confident, doubtful, always answered, intercession, seldom answered)

Accept Your _____ in Your Life.

Colossians 3:23 *Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people. . . . The Master you are serving is Christ.*

Esther 4:14 *And who knows whether you have not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?*

Ask Yourself: Am I content with who, where and why I am in life? Or do I play the “If only . . .” game? How confident am I that God made and placed me just as I am?

Look for People in Your Life to _____, to Serve and Hold You Accountable (“one another” appears 315 times in the Bible)

1 Thessalonians 5:11 *Encourage one another and build one another up.*

Ask Yourself: Who are the folks closest to me who could use a word of encouragement or prayer? Who could use my help? Who helps me to become better?

Commit to the Right _____ in Your Life.

2 Cor. 5:9 *We make it our aim to please him.*

Luke 4:43 *I must proclaim the good news of the kingdom of God . . . that is why I was sent.* (NIV)

Ask Yourself: What’s on the top of my “To Do” list today?

Discover Your _____ in Your Life.

Philippians 3:14 *Straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal.*

Jeremiah 20:9 *His word burns in my heart like a fire. It's like a fire in my bones!*

Ask Yourself: What puts a fire in my belly, a tear in my eye, and a song in my heart? What gives me joy and gets me outside of myself . . . for others?

Pursue _____ Best in Life.

Colossians 1:29 *I work and struggle so hard, depending on Christ's mighty power that works within*

me. (NLT)

John 9:4 *We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.*

Hebrews 10:24 *Let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works.*

2 Timothy 2:22 *Pursue righteousness, faith, love and peace.*

Romans 13:11 *This is all the more urgent, for you know how late it is; time is running out. Wake up, for our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed.*

Ask Yourself: I am neither Billy Graham nor Mother Theresa. What does MY best look like? (Not someone else's best, but MY best.)

Take home: 2 Corinthians 6:2 *For God says, "At just the right time, I heard you. On the day of salvation, I helped you." Indeed, the "right time" is now. Today is the day of salvation. (NLT)*

(Primary, Prayer, Position, Love, Priorities, Passion, Your)

Welcome to Mountain Reformed Church!

We are so grateful that you have chosen to worship with us today! The vision of our church is to provide an open door to relationship with God for all through worship, teaching God's Word, and by celebrating with music and the arts. Our mission is simple: All Glory to God! Our church is independent and non-denominational, with a theology based in the reformed way of being Christian. Please see our website at www.mountainreformed.org for more information about our church.

Facility Fund

We are growing! MRC is now looking for a semi-permanent location and we are creating a facility fund to support this effort. If you would like to contribute, please write "facility fund" on your offering envelope.

Operation Christmas Child

Next week we will start the annual Operation Christmas Child project. Please pray for this worldwide program that brings the joy and love of Jesus to children in locations far and wide!

September Benevolence Offering

Our Benevolence Offering for the month of September will be for a program called Tannies for Tots. This organization was started in 2015 by a single mom here in Prescott who saw the need for shoes and socks for preschool children. The program became a 501c3 in 2018, and currently supplies shoes, socks, backpacks, and books to more than 34 Head Start centers around the state of Arizona. Each donation of \$20 provides a book bag, shoes, socks, and an age-appropriate book to a child in need. Mary Bricker will be our point of contact to deliver donated shoes, socks, and funds to the Tannies for Tots founder, Paula Sedillo. If you choose to donate shoes and socks, information can be found online regarding sizes for preschoolers.

Pastor on Call

The Rev. Dr. Gene Grimm will be the Pastor on Call August. If you would like to get in touch, feel free to email eugenegrimm@me.com or call 928-925-6057.

MRC Bulletin and Weekly Email

Would you like to place an announcement in the Sunday bulletin or “This Week at Mountain Reformed Church” email? Please send your info to Emily Lawhead at ejlawhead@gmail.com. The deadline is Monday evening of each week for the coming weekend, but we always appreciate as much notice as possible.

Prayer Ministry and Prayer Chain

Prayer cards are now available at the usher’s table. If you would like to be a part of our prayer ministry and prayer chain, please indicate this on your welcome card. Lyndi Peacock coordinates this ministry, and she will send prayer requests to you by email: lyndi@milehighlending.com. You can also call or text Lyndi at 928-899-2085.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls serve as a tangible reminder of God’s love for those who are walking through difficult times. A prayer shawl can bring great comfort! Shawls can also be given in celebration of milestones such as graduations, weddings, and new babies. Our shawls are lovingly created by Sharon Tom, Barbara Poland, Sheri Simpson, and Debra Ochoa. Please let us know if you have someone who needs a prayer shawl! Recipients do not have to be local. Anyone with a love for knitting or crochet is welcome to participate in this ministry as well. Please email Sharon: sharonctom@yahoo.com.

Card Ministry

Cards for encouragement, celebration, sympathy, get well, birthdays, and more can be mailed out via our Card Ministry. Sheri Simpson, Carolyn Peterson, Lyndi Peacock, and Beth Wingate are coordinating this ministry and can always use donations of cards and stamps. Please let us know if you have someone whose day would be brightened by receiving a card from Mountain Reformed Church! Please email Sheri: charlieandsheri@gmail.com.

Flowers

Sheri Simpson coordinates our Flower Ministry. If you would like to commemorate a special occasion by providing flowers, please ask an usher to guide you to the flower sign-up chart.

8/21/2022 Worship Attendance: 62
Bank Balances as of 8/23/2022: \$26,122