



September 4, 2022 - 10:30 AM
Proper 18

Gathering

Words of Greeting and Life of the Church

L: Blessings to you, servants of God.

P: We lift up our hands and bless the Lord!

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

P: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Prelude

Dr. Craig Ralston

(Please stand as you are able)

Call to Worship

L: Please stand as you are able for our Call to Worship.

Happy are those who delight in the Word of God.

Ps. 1:1-3

**P: They are like trees planted by streams of water,
And they will flourish.**

L: Let us worship God!

(Please remain standing)

Opening Hymn #45

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

(Please be seated)

Call to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession

**Holy God,
we confess that we fail to put our trust in you completely.
Instead, we calculate our gains and losses,
hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life.
Forgive us,
and help us to treasure only you,
that we may follow you faithfully
and discover the blessings only you can give.**

(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

O Jesus, I Have Promised

Timothy Shaw

Call to Offering

Offertory

No More Sorrow

Shelton Kilby III

The Sunday Afternoon Barbershop Quartet

(Please stand as you are able)

Doxology, Hymn #668

OLD HUNDREDTH

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

The Word

Reading of Scripture

Jeremiah 18:1-11

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³ So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴ The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵ Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶ Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷ At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸ but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹ And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰ but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it. ¹¹ Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the LORD: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you, from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

L: The Word of our Lord.

P: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please remain seated)

Response, Hymn #529

Change My Heart, O God

CHANGE MY HEART

Prayer for Illumination

²⁵ Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

L: The Gospel of our Lord.

P: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

“It’s the Greatest for a Reason”

Lyndi Peacock

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper

Invitation to the Lord’s Table

(Please remain seated)

Communion Hymn #405

In Remembrance

RED

L: These are the gifts of God for the people of God!

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread,
and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat.

This is my body, given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.

(take the bread and eat together)

In the same way he took the cup, saying:
This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood,
shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.
Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.

(take the cup and drink together)

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes. Thanks be to God for these gracious gifts!

Let us pray:

L: Creator of all, just as this broken bread was first scattered upon the hills, then was gathered and became one,

P: so may your church be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul:

P: and all that is within me, bless God's holy name!

L: Bless the Lord, O my soul:

P: and forget not all God's benefits.

L: We thank you, O God,
that through Word and Sacrament
you have given us your Son
who is the true bread from heaven
and food of eternal life.

Lord's Prayer, Hymn #431

The Lord's Prayer

MALOTTE

**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

Dr. Craig Ralston

Assisting in Worship:

Liturgist: Sheri Simpson

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

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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.

Benevolence Offering for Communion Sunday September 4th

Our Benevolence Offering today will be for a program called Tennies 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 Tennies for Tots founder, Paula Sedillo. If you choose to donate shoes and socks, information can be found online regarding sizes for preschoolers.

MRC Men's Fellowship

The men of Mountain Reformed Church will meet for their monthly breakfast gathering tomorrow, Monday, September 5, at 8 am at Zeke's Eatin' Place in the Frontier Shopping center. Y'all come!

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

Keep Christmas in your heart all year long! So many children around the world have never heard of Christmas or the “reason for the season.” Operation Christmas Child shares the joy and love of Jesus and Christmas with children all over the world through the distribution of shoeboxes filled with toys, school supplies, clothes, crafts, and the story of Jesus. Empty shoeboxes await your generous filling and will be available after the worship service today. Last year our church family filled 125 boxes! Thank you in advance for your generosity again this year. For more information, see Sheri or Charlie, or email us at charlieandsheri@gmail.com.

Benevolence Update

Thank you, MRC family, for your generous donations to the PASS shelter! \$200 was donated in addition to the mounds of goods brought to worship. The team and residents at PASS are extremely grateful for our help in their time of need. These donations really make a difference in our community---thank you for helping to show the love of Christ to those in need!

Pastor on Call

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

MRC Name Badges

If you would like an MRC name badge, please send your name as it should appear to Mary Bricker: marybricker18@gmail.com and she will have one made.

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.

COVID-19 Precautions

Mountain Reformed Church seeks to provide in-person worship while maintaining appropriate safety guidelines. If you are experiencing fever or symptoms, please stay at home.

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.

Volunteers Needed

We need volunteers in several areas to help facilitate worship. If you would like to help, please let us know! We need Ushers, Liturgists, Coffee Fellowship Helpers, Setup Assistants, Sound Technicians, and Camera Operators.

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.

8/28/2022 Worship Attendance: 63
Bank Balances as of 8/30/2022: \$27,137