



Celebration of Worship on the Lord's Day

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 2, 2018



Westminster Peal

Prelude *"Partita No. 1 in Bb Major, BWV 825, I and II"* by J.S. Bach

Choral Call to Worship: *"I Rejoiced When I Heard Them Say (Psalm 122)"*
by Bernadette Farrell

*I rejoiced when I heard them say: "Let us go to the house of God."
And now our feet are standing in your gates, O Jerusalem!
For the peace of all nations, pray: for God's peace within your homes.
May God's lasting peace surround us; may it dwell in Jerusalem.
Shalom, shalom, the peace of God be here. Shalom, shalom, God's justice be ever near.*

† **Gathering as the Children of God** Elizabeth Small

One: Happy are those who live in God's house;
All: *Delighted are those who sing God's praises!*
One: The Lord provides the strength that we need.
All: *The glory of God will be made known in this place!*

† **Opening Hymn No. 267** *"All Things Bright and Beautiful"*

Prayer of Confession (unison) Elder Rita Sheffey

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Elder Sheffey

Leader: Friends, believe the Good News.
People: *In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.*

† **Response** *"Glory to the Father"* (hymn no. 567)

***Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen. Amen. Amen.***

† Those who are able, please stand



Felix Mendelssohn was a prominent German composer, pianist, organist, and conductor during the early Romantic period (early 1800s). Mendelssohn, though born into a Jewish family, was baptized as a Reformed Christian at the age of 7 and wrote sacred and secular music throughout his career.

Prayer for Illumination

Elizabeth Small

Anthem/Special Music

"If With All Your Hearts" from Elijah

by Mendelssohn

Featuring TJ Shirley, Tenor

"If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, Ye shall ever surely find me,"

Thus saith our God.

Oh! That I knew where I might find Him, that I might even come before His presence.

"If with all your hearts ye truly seek me, Ye shall ever surely find me,"

Thus saith our God.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 18:9-14

Rev. Ricardo Green

One: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

An Arrogant and Humble Prayer

Rev. Green



† Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Please exchange greetings of peace and welcome with your neighbor.

† Hymn No. 517

"We Come as Guests Invited"

Church Family Life

Elizabeth Small

Please take this time to pass the attendance notebooks located at the end of the pew row. If you are a visitor, we invite you to visit our information center located in the narthex.

"Passing the peace is a tradition rooted in Scripture that embodies our identity as peacemakers and trains our hearts, hands, and tongues in the ways of peace." Rev. Paul S. Ryan



Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks for the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly right and our greatest joy... who forever sing to the glory of your name.

Lord's Supper:
As we receive communion this morning, the pastor will invite the congregation to partake in the sacrament. Please follow the row in front of you and proceed down the middle aisles. If you prefer gluten free bread, please take from the pastor serving in the middle. When receiving communion, you may respond with "Thanks be to God," "Amen," or in silence. After partaking from the bread and cup, please leave your cup with the elder holding the empty tray and return to your seat up the outer aisles. If you prefer to be served at your seat, please raise your hand and someone will serve you.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Pastor: You are holy...the mystery of faith.

**Christ has died,
Christ is risen,
Christ will come again.**

Pastor: Gracious God...Our Father...(hymnal pg. 16)

**Words of Institution
Distribution of the Elements
Prayer after Communion**

Offering

Offertory *"Partita No. 1 in Bb Major, BWV 825, III"* by J. S. Bach

† Response

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

The Doxology

† Prayer of Thanksgiving

Elizabeth Small

† Closing Hymn

"Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace"

St. Francis of Assisi; Thomas Tallis;
Para. James Quinn, b. 1919 Adapt. Parker's "Whole Psalter," c. 1561

1. Lord, make us ser - vants of Your peace: Where there is hate, may
 2. Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; Where all is gloom, may
 3. Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek To be con - soled, but
 4. May we not look for love's re - turn, But seek to love un -
 5. Dy - ing we live, and are re - born Through death's dark night to

we sow love; Where there is hurt, may
 we sow hope; Where all is night, may
 to con - sole; Nor look to un - der -
 self - ish - ly, For in our giv - ing
 end - less day: Lord, make us ser - vants

we for - give; Where there is strife, may we make one.
 we sow light; Where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 stand - ing hearts, But look for hearts to un - der - stand.
 we re - ceive, And in for - giv - ing are for - giv'n.
 of Your peace To wake at last in hea - ven's light.

† **Benediction**

Rev. Green

† **Congregational Response**

"Amen"

(hymn no. 570)

† **Postlude**

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

by William B. Bradbury

† Those who are able, please stand



MVPC Mission Statement

Blessed to Be a Blessing

We are a Presbyterian church filled with love and energy – an inclusive congregation committed to spiritual growth through *worship, study, fellowship, and service.*

- As **children of God**, we seek to *praise* God in worship and in all that we say and do
- As **disciples of Jesus Christ**, we *listen* to scripture, tradition, one another, and the world in order to understand God's will for us as individuals and as a community
- As **members of a family of faith**, we strive to *love* one another unconditionally, sharing our joys and standing beside one another in our struggles
- **Moved by the Spirit**, we *serve* our gracious God by taking that with which we have been blessed and turning it into blessings for others.



Giving to MVPC is easy online

<http://mvpchurch.org/index.php/donate/>

MVPC Staff

Rev. Susan Haynes, Interim Pastor
TJ Shirley, Minister of Worship & Arts
Elizabeth Small, Dir. of Youth Ministry
Rev. Ricardo Green, Pastor of Spanish Ministries
Won-Hee An, Organist

Steve Ray, Church Finance & Operations
Jill Thompson, Administrative Assistant
Yvonne White, Financial Secretary
Lauren McClintock, Communications & Membership Coord
Mike Gillespie, Director of Christian Education