

**18th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 22, 2024**

**Gathering**  
***God invites us to enter His presence***

**Prelude**                      *All My Boast is in Jesus*

**Welcome & Announcements**


**Preparation for Worship** (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

 **Call to Worship** (*Responsively*)

*Bonnie Mecaughey*

Let us worship God, our light and our salvation.  
**The Lord is the stronghold of our lives.**  
We desire to live in God's house  
and to seek God in his holy temple.  
**We have come with shouts of joy,  
to sing and to make music to the Lord.**  
Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.  
**Teach us your ways and make straight our paths  
in this hour of worship and always.**

—based on Psalm 27; John 4:23

 **Invocation** (*Responsively*)

*Bonnie Mecaughey*

God, our Creator, from nothing you made our world.  
**You formed us, love us, and give us all that we need.**  
God, our Redeemer, you rescued us from sin.  
**You have given us new life and hope of healing to the world.**  
God, our Comforter, you are with us always.  
**You comfort us, renew us, and guide us into your truth.**  
Almighty God, for your gracious love for us, we praise you.  
**Amen.**

 **Opening Hymn 43**    *Great is Thy Faithfulness*

**Confessing**  
***God invites us to be honest with Him***

**Call to Confession**

*Bonnie Mecaughey*

We know that nothing is able to separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ. Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

—based on Romans 8:39

**Prayer of Confession** *(In Unison)*

*Bonnie Mecaughey*

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you  
with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as  
ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been,  
help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,  
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**Time for Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Bonnie Mecaughey*

He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross,  
so that, free from sins,  
we might live for righteousness;  
by his wounds you have been healed.

—1 Peter 2:24, NRSV

*Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord*  
**All: Thanks be to God!**

**🕯 Gloria Patri**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
And to the Holy Ghost:  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be, world without end.  
A-men, A-men.*

**Ordination & Installation of Church Officers**

**Introductions**

*Robin Miller, Chris Adler, Bernie Hughes - Deacons  
Aimee Ludt, Bonnie Mecaughey, Dan Baker, Matt Steinginga - Elders  
Stephanie Miller, Dan Obenschain, Ryan Ludt, Val Petrie - Trustees  
(Please remain in your pew & stand when your name is  
read)*

**Questions to Dan Baker & Matt Steinginga on being  
ordained as Elders**

*Do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ as your own personal  
Lord and Savior? Do you?*

*Do you believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to  
be the Word of God, totally trustworthy, fully inspired by the Holy  
Spirit, the supreme, final, and the only infallible rule of faith and  
practice? Do you?*

*Do you sincerely receive and adopt the Westminster Confession of faith and the catechisms of this church, as containing the system of doctrine taught in the Holy Scriptures? Do you?*

*Do you promise that if at any time you find yourself out of accord with the system of doctrine as taught in the scriptures and as contained in the Westminster Confession of Faith and the Catechisms of this Church you will on your own initiative make known to your Church Session the change which has taken place in your views since the assumption of this ordination vow? Do you?*

*Do you affirm and adopt the Essentials of our Faith without exception? Do you?*

*Do you promise to subscribe to the government and discipline of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church? Do you?*

*Do you promise to be subject to your fellow officers in the Lord? Do you?*

**Installation Questions to Stephanie Miller, Dan Obenschain, Val Petrie and Ryan Ludt on being installed as Trustees; to Dan Baker, Aimee Ludt, Bonnie Mecaughey and Matt Steinginga on being installed as Ruling Elders; and to Robin Miller, Chris Adler and Bernie Hughes on being installed as Deacons.**

*To Aimee, Bonnie, Robin, Chris, Bernie  
Do you now reaffirm the vows you took upon your Ordination and do you recommit yourself to them in discharge of your obligation? Do you?*

*To all officers:  
Have you been induced, as far as you know your own heart, to Accept this office from love of God and sincere desire to promote His glory in the Gospel of His Son? Have you?*

*Do you promise to be zealous and faithful in promoting the truths of the Gospel and the purity and peace of the church, whatever persecution or opposition may arise to you on that account? Do you?*

*Will you seek to be faithful and diligent in the exercise of all your Duties as an officer, whether personal or relative, private or public; and to endeavor by the grace of God to adorn the profession of the Gospel in your manner of life, and to walk with exemplary piety before this congregation of which God will make you an officer? Will you?*

*Are you now willing to take responsibility in the life of this Congregation respectively as a Trustee, Elder, or Deacon and will you seek to discharge your duties, relying upon the grace of God, in such a way that the entire Church of Jesus Christ will be blessed? Will you?*

## Question to the Congregation

*Do you, the members of this congregation, receive these persons as Ruling Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and do you continue your promise to yield them and all your officers all that honor, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord to which the ordination or installation as an officer entitles them, according to the word of God and the Constitution of the Evangelical Presbyterian Church? Do you?*

## Prayer of Ordination

“Sovereign Lord, we ask You now that You anoint these Your Servants for the work that You are calling them to do. Give them the full measure of your Spirit so that they may become fully equipped. Give them the wisdom to lean on You and Your Word for advice. Give them the courage to face the trials that will come their way. May Your presence abide, Your grace sustain and Your love keep them now and forever. Amen

## Declaration

### Offering

*Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him*

**Invitation**      With thankfulness we give in gratitude and joy.  
                            With prayerfulness we give in sacrifice and love.  
                            With hopefulness we give in commitment to God.

## Offering

## Offertory

*Greg Maurer*

## ✠ Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
*Praise Him, all creatures here below;*  
*Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;*  
*Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

## ✠ Prayer of Dedication

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things.  
Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts.  
With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives  
to the care and redemption of all that you have made,  
for the sake of him who gave himself for us—  
Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Passing of the Peace**

*Leader: The Peace of the Lord be with You*

*All: **And also with you***

## **Preparation Song**

*Psalm 126*

### *Verse 1*

*Our mouths they were filled, filled with laughter*

*Our tongues they were loosed, loosed with joy*

### *Pre-Chorus*

*Restore us, O Lord*

*Restore us, O Lord*

### *Chorus*

*Although we are weeping*

*Lord, help us keep sowing*

*The seeds of Your Kingdom*

*For the day You will reap them*

*Your sheaves we will carry*

*Lord, please do not tarry*

*All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy*

### *Verse 2*

*The nations will say, "He has done great things!"*

*The nations will sing songs of joy*

### *Pre-Chorus*

*Restore us, O Lord*

*Restore us, O Lord*

### *Chorus*

### *Outro*

*All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy*

*All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy*

*All those who sow weeping will go out with songs of joy*

## **Proclaiming** **God speaks to us through His Word**

### **Scripture Reading**

*Philippians 1:12-26*

<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually advanced the gospel, <sup>13</sup> so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard, and to everyone else, that my imprisonment is because I am in Christ. <sup>14</sup> Most of the brothers have gained confidence in the Lord from my imprisonment and dare even more to speak the word fearlessly. <sup>15</sup> To be sure, some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of good will. <sup>16</sup> These preach out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; <sup>17</sup> the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, thinking that they will cause me trouble in my imprisonment. <sup>18</sup> What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will continue

to rejoice <sup>19</sup> because I know this will lead to my salvation through your prayers and help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ. <sup>20</sup> My eager expectation and hope is that I will not be ashamed about anything, but that now as always, with all courage, Christ will be highly honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

<sup>21</sup> For me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> Now if I live on in the flesh, this means fruitful work for me; and I don't know which one I should choose. <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two. I long to depart and be with Christ—

— <sup>24</sup> but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. <sup>25</sup> Since I am persuaded of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that, because of my coming to you again, your boasting in Christ Jesus may abound.

**Sermon**                      *"Christ Will Be Proclaimed!"*  
   *Rev. Tim Latham*

 **Hymn of Response 379**      *Take My Life and Let it Be*

**Responding**  
***We respond to God's Word***

 **Profession of Faith** *(In Unison)*

**God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.  
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.  
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.  
Come, behold the works of the LORD;  
see what desolations he has brought on the earth.  
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.  
"Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations,  
I am exalted in the earth."  
The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

—Psalm 46, NRSV

**Prayers of the People**

*Leader: Lord, In Your mercy;  
All     Hear our prayer*

### 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 our debts as we forgive our debtors;  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,  
for Thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory forever, Amen.**

### Commissioning

*God sends us out into the world as His witnesses*



**Commission Hymn 601**     *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing*



**Benediction & Blessing**



**Postlude**