

Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain  
and giving his life for the sins of the world.

**God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
vindicating his sinless life,  
breaking the power of sin and evil,  
delivering us from death to life eternal.**

**\*Hymn 463**

“How Firm a Foundation”

**\*The Charge** (responsive)

Ephesians 6:14-18

Fasten the belt of truth around your waist,  
and put on the breastplate of righteousness.

**As shoes for your feet, put on whatever will make you ready  
to proclaim the gospel of peace.**

Take the shield of faith, and the helmet of salvation,

**and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.**

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication,

**and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.**

**\*The Blessing**

*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

We welcome our guest musician this morning **Dr. Robert Boer.**

**A hearing loop is active; set hearing aid to “T-coil.”**

Scripture passages are read from the NRSV. The Morning Meditation is from *New Songs of Praise, Book 2* (Oxford University Press, 1985). The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year A, Volume 2* © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press.



MPC is an Earth Care congregation.

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**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY  
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
AUGUST 26, 2018, 10:00 A.M.**

**Morning Meditation**

Oswald Chambers (1874-1917)

*We are not made for the mountains, for sunrises,  
or for the other beautiful attractions in life—  
those are simply intended to be moments of inspiration.  
We are made for the valley and the ordinary things of life,  
and that is where we have to prove our stamina and strength.*

**Chimes of the Trinity**

**Ritual of Fellowship**

**Piano Voluntary**

“With All My Heart”

B. Mason/arr. L. Tornquist

**\*Call to Worship**

from Psalm 84

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

**My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.**

O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!

**Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.**

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

**I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God  
than live in the tents of wickedness.**

For the LORD God is a sun and shield.

**O LORD of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**

**\*Hymn 275**

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession** (unison)

Watchful God, you know our plight.  
Offended, we have not believed your words.  
Complaining, we have betrayed your love.  
We are weak, estranged, wandering, and lost.  
Seeking to stand in our own strength, we fall.  
Strangers to your holiness, we wander.  
Defenseless against evil within and without, we are lost.  
Shine your light in our darkness,  
and guide us back to our place in you. Amen.

**Silent Prayers of Confession**

**Kyrie Eleison 551** (unison)

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Response 447**

“We Are Forgiven”

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God.  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Thanks be to God.

**Reading from the Old Testament**

I Kings 8:22-24, 27-30, 41-43

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Taizé Hymn 205**

“Live in Charity”

Live in charity and steadfast love.  
Live in charity. God will dwell with you.

**Reading from the Gospel**

John 6:56-69

**Hymn 726**

“Will You Come and Follow Me”

**Reading from the New Testament Epistles**

Ephesians 6:10-20

**The Sermon**

“Against Cosmic Powers”

Keith Grogg

**Prayers of the People 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.

**Offering of our Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory**

“He Leadeth Me (with Schumann’s ‘*Molto Lento*’)”

arr. C. Berry

**\*Doxology 607**

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication and Affirmation of Faith**

A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

**Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:**  
preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives,  
teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,  
healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,  
eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,  
and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.