

***Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come
to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

***Gloria Patri 581**

***The Charge**

Mark 12:28-31

Which commandment is the first of all?

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your mind,
and with all your strength.**

And the second is this:

**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no other commandment greater than these.**

***Choral Benediction**

***Blessing and Postlude**

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Words in **bold** and double-indented are congregational responses. Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version. MPC is a congregation of the PC (USA), a church of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, an Earth Care congregation, and a Living Wage Certified Employer.

MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 25, 2019, 10:00 A.M.

Morning Meditation

Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890)

"Sometimes in winter it's so bitterly cold that one says, it's simply too cold, what do I care whether summer comes, the bad outweighs the good. But whether we like it or not, an end finally comes to the hard frost, and one fine morning the wind has turned and we have a thaw. Comparing the natural state of the weather with our state of mind and our circumstances, subject to variables and change, I still have some hope that it can improve."

Chiming of the Hour

Ritual of Fellowship

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 71 and the U.N. Convention on Genocide (1948)

The Contracting Parties confirm that genocide is a crime committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such: Killing members of the group;

In you, O LORD, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame.

Causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group;

In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;

incline your ear to me and save me.

Deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life

calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part;

Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me,

for you are my rock and my fortress.

Imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group;

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,

from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.

Forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

For you, O LORD, are my hope, my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

***Hymn 321**

“The Church’s One Foundation”

Prayer of Confession (unison) *followed by silent prayer*

**God of Life, you come to us as a consuming fire,
the One who consecrated us before time.
You promise us a kingdom that cannot be shaken
and call us to serve you with praise and thanksgiving.
But we forget, and yield to fear.
We lose sight of your Big Picture
while chasing the tangible rewards of this life,
and obsessing over the pettinesses of our little world.
Open us to your healing, we humbly pray,
and help us to be healers of the broken world you created good.
Give us your grace and inspire us to serve you with courage,
we ask in the name of Jesus Christ who comes to save. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison 579

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Cantor: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Choir: Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
ALL: Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Pardon

Response 587

“Alleluia!”

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Alleluia! Alleluia, Alleluia!

New Member Welcome

Reading from the New Testament Epistles

Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24

Anthem

“Prayer of Desmond Tutu”

James Whitbourn

Reading from the Gospel

Luke 13:10-17

Hymn 795

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

Sermon

“When Love Overrides the Rules”

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People

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.**

***Hymn 242**

“Day of Delight and Beauty Unbounded”

Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

***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**