

***Hymn 450 (verses 1, 2 and 4)**

“Be Thou My Vision”

MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Upper Anderson, Montreat, North Carolina
The Service for the Lord’s Day
September 12, 2021, 10:00 A.M.

***The Charge** (responsive)

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.**

***Blessing**

***Postlude**

“Blest as the Pure in Heart”

arr. M. Archer

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

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

Bulletins are placed on the chairs this morning. Worship leaders, including singers, are fully vaccinated. For the safety of all and in accordance with local mandates, we remain masked through the service. Pulpit speakers will unmask while at the pulpit, which is kept at a safe remove from the congregation. Please observe safe distancing and refrain from physical contact such as hugs and handshakes. Disposable masks and hand sanitizer are available. The ventilation system is an outside exchange, meaning air is cycled out and fresh air cycled in. As the current concerns are respiratory, we believe it is safe to pass the offering plate.

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MPC is a congregation of the PC(USA), a member of the Presbytery of Western North Carolina, an Earth Care Congregation and a Living Wage Certified Employer.

Morning Meditation

Mary Ann Lathbury (1877)

“Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now unto me, as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee.”

Chimes of the Trinity and Ritual of Fellowship

Prelude

“”

Call to Worship (liturgist)

Psalms 116:4-5. 8-9

***Hymn 307 (verses 1. 3 and 4)**

“God of Grace, and God of Glory”

Congregation:

**God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy pow’r.
Crown thine ancient church’s story, bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**

Ensemble:

Cure thy children’s warring madness; bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom’s goal.

Congregation:

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the search for thy salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving thee whom we adore,
serving thee whom we adore.**

Prayer of Confession *followed by silent prayers of confession*

**You have called us, O God, and we have refused to listen;
you have stretched out your hand and we have not taken it.**

**We have taken what you have given us
and used those gifts to hurt others and defy you.**

We have refused to be tamed by your wisdom.

**Forgive our inability to recognize you
and live out the reality of your gospel.**

**Give us the insight we need to understand your place in our lives
so that our words and actions reflect
the glory of God in the lives of others.**

In the name of the Messiah we pray. Amen..

Kyrie Eleison 575 “Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us” KYRIE ELEISON (Pardini)
Choral Ensemble

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer for Illumination

Gospel Reading Mark 8:27-38
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

New Testament Epistle Reading James 3:1-12

Choral Anthem 460 “Break Thou the Bread of Life” Lathbury/Sherwin
*Break thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as thou didst break the loaves beside the sea.
Beyond the sacred page I seek thee, Lord. My spirit pants for thee, O living Word!
Bless thou the truth, dear Lord, now unto me, as thou didst bless the bread by Galilee.
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall. And I shall find my peace, my all in all.*

Old Testament Reading Proverbs 1:20-33

Sermon “Does Wisdom Still Cry Out in the Streets?” 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.**

Offertory “ ” KINGSFOLD/
Choral Ensemble K. Carmichael

Prayer of Dedication

***Affirmation of Faith** (responsive) The Barmen Declaration
Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture,
is the one Word of God which we have to hear
and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.

**As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins,
so, in the same way and with the same seriousness
he is also God's mighty claim upon our whole life.**

Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world
for a free, grateful service to God’s creatures.

**The Christian Church is the congregation of the faithful
in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord
in Word and sacrament through the Holy Spirit.**

As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world,
with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order,
that it is solely his property,

**and that it lives, and wants to live,
solely from his comfort and from his direction
in the expectation of his appearance.**