

***Hymn 306**

“Blest Be the Tie that Binds”

R. Lowry

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

ENSEMBLE:

*We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.*

**From sorrow, toil, and pain, and sin, we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.**

***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 and Postlude**

“Psalm 19”

Marcello

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

A hearing loop is active; set hearing aid to “T-coil.” We remain masked through the service. Worship leaders are fully vaccinated. Pulpit speakers unmask while at the pulpit, which is at a safe remove from the congregation. We believe it is safe to pass offering plates. **The Morning Meditation** is from Jennings, Acts: A Theological Commentary (Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2017). The **Prayer of Confession** is used by permission of Westminster John Knox Press, from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, copyright © 2014. **Scripture passages** are from the NRSV. Montreat Presbyterian Church 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.

**MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Anderson Auditorium, Montreat, North Carolina
The Service for the Lord’s Day
September 26, 2021, 10:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

Willie James Jennings (2017)

*Where the Spirit of God is, there is divine desire not simply for God but for one another
and not simply for one another but for those to whom we are sent by the Spirit,
to those already being drawn into communion with God and sensing the desire of God
for the expansion of their lives into the lives of others.“*

Chimes of the Trinity

Prelude

“How Firm a Foundation”
Clara Hare-Grogg, violinist

trad. American

Ritual of Fellowship

Minute for Mission

Choral Introit

“Alleluia”

Norah Duncan

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 19:7-9, 14

The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you, O LORD,
my rock and my redeemer.

***Hymn 307**

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

Fosdick/Hughes

**God of grace and God of glory, on thy people pour thy power;
crown thine ancient church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flower.
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.*

**Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.
Let the gift of 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*

**God, our strength and savior, you know
our great transgressions, our hidden faults, our secret sins.
With our hands we grasp at power; with our feet we stumble into evil;
with our eyes we look out for ourselves. Forgive us, gracious God,
and lead us in your holy way of life and love and peace;
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison 575

“Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us”

KYRIE ELEISON (Pardini)

Choral Ensemble

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer for Illumination

New Testament Reading

James 5:13-16

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:38-41

Old Testament Reading

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Sermon

“Restless Rabble and Missing Ingredients”

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

trad. Irish

Clara Hare-Grogg, violinist

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Affirmation of Faith**

Belhar Confession (1986)

**We believe in the triune God, who gathers, protects,
and cares for the church through Word and Spirit.
We believe in one holy, universal Christian church,
the communion of saints called from the entire human family.
We believe that unity is, therefore,
both a gift and an obligation for the church of Jesus Christ;
that separation, enmity and hatred between people and groups is sin
which Christ has already conquered.**