



September 17, 2023

16th Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING IN THE LORD'S PRESENCE

Boldface = All speak

❖ = All who are able, please stand.

PRELUDE..... "Go Down, Moses" *Spiritual, Arr. by Calvin Taylor*

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Kum ba Yah"

❖ **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 103:1-4*)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me.

Bless God's holy name.

God forgives. God heals. God transforms with steadfast love.

Bless God's holy name.

Come, let us worship God!

❖ **HYMN** "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" **#32**

(CCLI Song #738058. Isaac Watts | Ralph Vaughan Williams © Words & Music: Public Domain)

❖ **CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER**

Nurturing God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you desire to gather your children. But division and disagreement plague us. We cling to rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We walk away from conflict, rather than working through it. (a time for silent confession) **Forgive us, Holy God. Help us grow in faith, mature in relationships, and be transformed through your steadfast love. Amen.**

❖ **ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE**

❖ **AFFIRMING THE PEACE AMONG US**

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

NEW MEMBER WELCOME

GLORIA PATRI..... Henry W. Greatorex (Public Domain)#581

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Open us, Eternal God, to your Word read and proclaimed. Help us not to turn from your truth or avoid your message. Help us be receptive to the wisdom you offer. Amen.

1st SCRIPTURE READINGExodus 14:19-31, pg. 97
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM....."The Prayer of Our Lord"
(Words based on Matthew 6:9-13; music by Lois Myers Emig; based on VESPER HYMN by Bortniansky)

2nd SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 18:21-35, pg. 1401
Holy Wisdom, Holy Word. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGEThe Rev. Sara K. Snowden

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

❖**HYMN** "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy" #435
(CCLI Song #123216. Frederick William Faber | Lizze Shove Tourjee © Words & Music: Public Domain.)

MINUTE FOR MISSIONAL ACTION

Keith Draper, Director of Church Relations, World Relief

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*p. 35 in the hymnal*)

OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY Genevan Psalter (Public Domain) #606

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT & SERVE

MINUTE FOR MISSIONNancy Olson, Crop Walk

❖**HYMN** "Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" **#727**
(CCLI Song #72673. Richard Gillard. Words: 1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing; Music:
1977 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Publishing)

❖**SENDING FORTH**

POSTLUDE....."Get on Board, Little Children" *Spiritual, Arr. by James Pethel*

ANNOUNCEMENT: Congregational Meeting: Sun Sept 24

Heritage Presbyterian Church will hold a brief congregational meeting following worship on Sunday, September 24 to elect new elders and deacons. The meeting will take place in-person and via Zoom (link to be included in the Monday email on September 18).

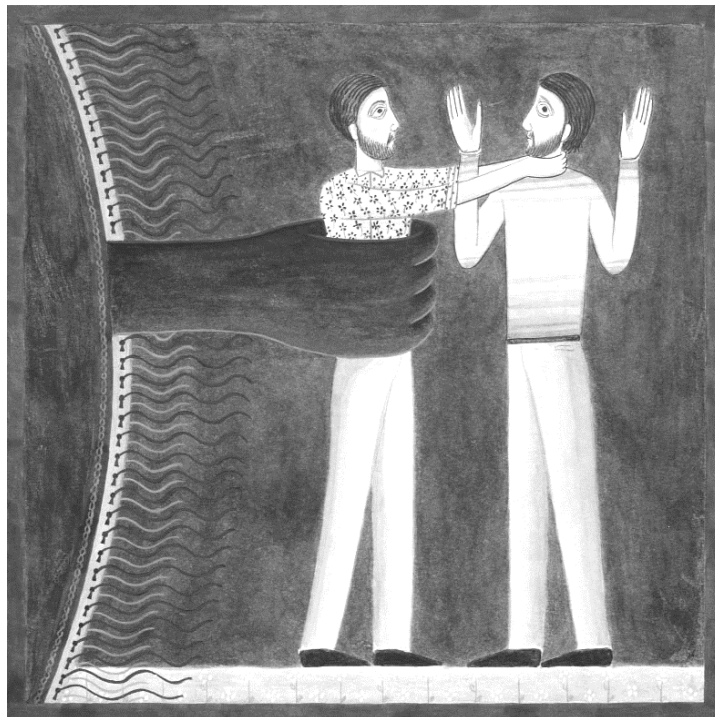
Pastor: The Rev. Sara K. Snowden

Lector: Caroline Knoff

Greeter/Usher: Bev Mason

Worship Pianist: Amy Dickman

In gratitude for Teri McDowell Ott and the Presbyterian Outlook for inspiring portions of today's worship service.



Parable of the Unforgiving Servant by Nikola Saric