

ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 3rd, 2017

13th Sunday after Pentecost/22nd Sunday Ordinary Time/Proper 17

Please sign and pass the Friendship Book (“pew pad”) where you can also record any prayer requests. Our prayer is that you will experience the presence of the Living God as we worship together.

We invite you to focus your heart and mind in worship.

** indicates please stand as you are able.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Don Meekhof

PRELUDE

"Meditation on 'Gerald'"

Organ

on a tune by Louis Spohr

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Camille Troxel

O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable are His ways!

For who has known the mind of the Lord? O who has been His counselor? O who has given a gift to Him, to receive a gift in return?

**For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
To Him be the glory forever. Amen**

Romans 11

***SONGS OF WORSHIP:**

“HALLELUJAH! WHAT A SAVIOR”

(Hymn #226)

(VERSE 1)

“Man of Sorrows,” what a name
for the Son of God,
who came ruined sinners to reclaim!
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

(VERSE 2)

Bearing shame and scoffing rude,
in my place condemned he stood;
sealed my pardon with his blood:
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

(VERSE 3)

Guilty, vile, and helpless, we;

spotless Lamb of God was he;
full atonement, can it be?
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

(VERSE 4)

Lifted up was he to die,
"It is finished," was his cry;
Now in heaven exalted high:
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

(VERSE 5)

When he comes, our glorious King,
all his ransomed home to bring,
then anew this song we'll sing:
Hallelujah! What a Savior!

TIME OF PRAYER

Camille Troxel

Call to Confession

Through our Lord Jesus Christ
we have obtained access
to the grace in which we stand.
With confidence in God's grace,
let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**Loving God, without your grace
we are like sheep without a shepherd
Sometimes we are harassed by sin
and feel helpless against its power.
Sometimes, in our sin, we use our own power
to harass the helpless.
We are wolves in sheep's clothing,
innocent as serpents and wise as doves.
Forgive us, O Lord, and bring us home.
Restore us to your flock and fold, we pray;
through Jesus Christ, our Good Shepherd. Amen.**

[Silent Prayer]

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news of God's love:
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

Since we are justified by faith
we have peace with God
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Both of these prayers come from "2000 Years of Prayer" compiled by Michael Counsell; Morehouse Publishing, 1999

SONG OF WORSHIP:

please remain seated

"PRAISE THE NAME OF JESUS"

(Hymn #128)

Praise the name of Jesus,
Praise the name of Jesus.
He's my rock, he's my fortress, he's my deliverer,
in him will I trust.
Praise the name of Jesus.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Don Meekhof

OFFERING OF OURSELVES & OUR GIFTS

Pat Tucker

Invitation to the Offering

Jesus said: The harvest is plentiful,
but the laborers are few.
Therefore, we ask the Lord to send us out
as laborers for the harvest.
Let us offer the gifts of our lives to the Lord.

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving/Dedication

God and Holy God,
for your steadfast love and faithfulness
we give you thanks and bless your name.

Let our whole loves become songs
of gratitude, joy, and praise
so that all the earth may know
that we are your people
and that you are our God;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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You may bring your offering and/or light a candle at the front or back of the sanctuary.

Junior Chapel is on summer break until Sept. 10th. The nursery is available for your children during the worship service.

Offertory

"Tranquility"

Roger C. Wilson

Organ

READING OF THE SCRIPTURES

Mike Helland

Numbers 21:4-9 (NIV)

The Bronze Snake

⁴ They traveled from Mount Hor along the route to the Red Sea, to go around Edom. But the people grew impatient on the way; ⁵ they spoke against God and against Moses, and said, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? There is no bread! There is no water! And we detest this miserable food!"

⁶ Then the Lord sent venomous snakes among them; they bit the people and many Israelites died. ⁷ The people came to Moses and said, "We sinned when we spoke against the Lord and against you. Pray that the Lord will take the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ The Lord said to Moses, "Make a snake and put it up on a pole; anyone who is bitten can look at it and live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, they lived.

John 3:14-15 (NIV)

¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, ¹⁵ that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him."

John 12:27-36 (NIV)

²⁷ “Now my soul is troubled, and what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it was for this very reason I came to this hour. ²⁸ Father, glorify your name!”

Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and will glorify it again.” ²⁹ The crowd that was there and heard it said it had thundered; others said an angel had spoken to him.

³⁰ Jesus said, “This voice was for your benefit, not mine.

³¹ Now is the time for judgment on this world; now the prince of this world will be driven out. ³² And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.”

³³ He said this to show the kind of death he was going to die. ³⁴ The crowd spoke up, “We have heard from the Law that the Messiah will remain forever, so how can you say, ‘The Son of Man must be lifted up’? Who is this ‘Son of Man’?”

³⁵ Then Jesus told them, “You are going to have the light just a little while longer. Walk while you have the light, before darkness overtakes you. Whoever walks in the dark does not know where they are going. ³⁶ Believe in the light while you have the light, so that you may become children of light.” When he had finished speaking, Jesus left and hid himself from them.

MESSAGE

Rev. Don Meekhof

“LIFTED UP!”

(God is Glorified, Jesus is Exalted, We are Saved)

Sermon Text: “And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.” **John 3: 14-15**

***SONG OF WORSHIP:**

“Glorify Thy Name”

Benny Hinn

Father, we love You
We worship and adore you
Glorify Your Name in all the earth

Glorify Your Name
Glorify Your Name
Glorify Your Name in all the earth

Jesus, we love You
We worship and adore You
Glorify Your Name in all the earth

Spirit, we love You
We worship and adore You
Glorify Your Name in all the earth

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SHARING AROUND CHRIST’S TABLE—COMMUNION

Rev. Don Meekhof

Christ becomes a part of our flesh through Holy Communion.

The Lord’s Supper is not an end in itself. It always points beyond itself to celebrate God’s grace and covenant faithfulness. This does not mean the physical aspects of the celebration are incidental or unimportant. The Lord’s Supper should be a celebration fitting to the abundant grace of God offered in Christ.

Invitation to the Lord’s Supper

**Breaking of the Bread & Pouring of the Cup
Sharing the Body and Blood of Christ**

***CLOSING SONG**

It is the custom at Knox, in celebration of Holy Communion, to hold hands and form a circle around the sanctuary to sing our closing song...

“BLEST BE THE TIE THAT BINDS”

(Hymn #708)

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

BENEDICTION

Rev. Don Meekhof

POSTLUDE

"Echo Alleluia"

Henry Purcell

Organ

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In the pulpit today: Don Meekhof is our “*Temporary Stated Supply*” pastor. Those words in quotes are the official title given by Presbytery because with Shared Ministry there is no full-time pastor. However, Don most definitely has a full-time love for shepherding the flock of Christ and we are blessed to have him with us!

Today’s Lectionary Readings

Exodus 3:1-15

Romans 12:9-21

Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26

Matthew 16:21-28

How can your life include a faithful response to Jesus’ charge that his followers must “deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me”?
Matthew 16:24

Questions for Reflection

Household Prayer: Morning

God of love,
today help us to love peaceably with all.
Help us live in genuine love:
to love our neighbors as ourselves,
and to love you, O God,
with our whole heart, mind, and strength.
In Jesus' loving name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Holy God,
because you have been with us this day,
we have stood on holy ground. Thank you.
We know that you will remain with us through this night.
Thank you.
We know that you will be with us again tomorrow. Thank
you.
In Jesus' holy name. Amen.

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