



*Bright Hope Laurel
United Methodist Church*

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Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

Sunday, October 26, 2025

Chimes of the Trinity

Prelude and Lighting the Altar Candles

Welcome and Call to Worship

(inspired by Psalm 65)

L: We come on this day to celebrate and worship God who:

P: Answers prayer! Forgives our transgressions! Answers us with deliverance!

L: The God of our salvation is:

P: The hope of all the ends of the earth and the farthest seas! Creator of the mountains! Clothed with might!

L: Our God:

P: Silences the roaring seas, the roaring waves, and the tumult of our lives!

Makes the gateways of the mourning and the evening shout for joy!

L: Even those who live at Earth's farthest bounds are awed by God's signs.

P: The river of God is full of water. Our God waters the Earth and blesses its growth. The Earth and the people shout and sing together for joy!

L: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed,
O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.

P: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Passing the Peace

*Welcoming Hymn *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"* #103 (1 & 4)

Prayer of Confession

(inspired by Luke 18: 9-14)

Lord God in heaven, we confess that we try to measure our faithfulness by comparing ourselves with others.

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us as sinners.

Forgive us O God where we fail to see your Spirit's work in others,
in those who have lived before us.

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us as sinners.

Forgive us for choosing comfort and convenience over faithfulness.

Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us as sinners.

Posted on the Mennonite Church U.S.A. Archives site. [http://www.mcausa-archives.org/Resources/](http://www.mcausa-archives.org/Resources/HeritageSunday/2001MennoniteHeritageSunday.htm)

HeritageSunday/2001MennoniteHeritageSunday.htm, reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/09/prayer-measuring-faithfulness.html>.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Friends, God promises to forgive us, to put our sins out of God's own mind and heart. In this way, God gives us not just a second chance but a new beginning. Believe the good news of the gospel: our salvation is through faith in Christ Jesus. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Feasting on the Word, Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year C, Vol. 2, Kimberly Bracken Long, ed. WJK Press, 2013, 218.

Prayers of the People

Patricia Petchin; Frances Powell; Nathan Woody; Eddie Leindecker; Glenn White;

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence

For all people in their daily life and work;

For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence. The People may add their own petitions

Lord, in your mercy

Hear our prayer.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence. The People may add their own thanksgiving.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Hymn of Thanksgiving “Let My People Seek Their Freedom” #586 (all)

Scripture Reading

Acts 23:1-11

(NIV)

Piano Duet

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Children's Sermon & The Lord's Prayer

Sermon

"The Cost of Freedom"

Prayer

Offering & Response

- What is one thing you heard today that stands out?
- What part of this brings hope for you?
- What part of this is challenging for you?
- What are you being asked to trust God with today?

Receiving New Members

Sara & Brent Bakken

Doxology

#94

*Closing Hymn *"The Lord Bless and Keep You"* TFW'S #2280 (sing thru once)

Announcements

- ❖ Tuesdays at 10am - Spiritual Support - BHL Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Wednesdays at 6:30pm - Handbells - BHL Sanctuary
- ❖ First Sundays at 12:15pm - Fellowship Potluck - BHL Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Second Saturdays at 8am - Men's Breakfast - Little Creek Cafe
- ❖ Tuesday, October 30, 6:30pm - Leadership Team - BHL Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Saturday, November 1, 9am - CPR training - BHL Fellowship Hall
- ❖ Sundays at 9:45am - Starting November 2 (6 Weeks) - *Youth & Adult Confirmation Class - Fellowship Hall - We will be studying the Apostles Creed and our foundational beliefs. Confirmation will follow on December 14th for our youth as well as any adults who would like to confirm their beliefs at that time.*
- ❖ Sign up to sponsor a child for Christmas - *Mars Hill Elementary has asked us to sponsor children once again. This year, we will not be financing this through the church budget, but if you are able and willing to sponsor a child this year through your personal budget, you are invited to sign up. Lisa Anderson is organizing and can answer questions if needed.*

Benediction

Postlude