"We are not our own, we are God's"

How to be a Christian according to John Calvin - Part 2 - All-Church Spiritual Growth Campaign 2020

September 27, 2020
10:00 a.m.

MEDIA
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

OUR MISSION AND VISION

Our Mission is to love God and love our neighbor.

Our Vision is to be a Christian Community that worships together, serves together, and grows together in faith.

VISITING TODAY?

If this is your first time worshiping with us, we hope you will feel welcome. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us by phone or email. We also invite you to visit our website at www.mediapresbyterian.org

stephen MINISTRY®

Christ Caring for People Through People

stephenministry@mediapresbyterian.org

All who can do so comfortably are invited to stand

Welcome

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 27, 2020

GATHERING

Prelude Sean Michael McDonald, Organist

Welcome and Announcements

*** Sharing the Joy of Our Faith** *(We encourage you to greet others and receive greetings while remaining in your pews. We encourage you to wave, offer the peace sign, clap your hands, tap your feet, whichever way you choose - we are blessed to be together to worship while remaining a safe physical distance apart. If you are worshipping virtually, we invite you to extend greetings using the chat feature.)*

Call to Worship (based on Romans 12:1-2; Psalm 124:8)

One: We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ,
All: the Maker of heaven and earth,
One: who calls us away from the customs and attitudes of the world around us,
All: and invites us instead into a transforming relationship with Him and with one another.
One: Let's worship God together!

Opening Hymn/Song *For the Beauty of the Earth*

Children's Moment

Blessing of the Children (All)

Dear God, bless your children here, in our neighborhood and in our ministries throughout the coming week. Show them your goodness. Give them your peace for when they are afraid. Teach them to hear your voice. And be with us now and throughout this week, as we seek to worship you. Amen.

Call to Confession (1 John 1:8-9)

Liturgist: If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(a time of honesty before God in silent confession)

Prayer of Confession *(All)*

Heavenly Father, our Savior told us, "Those who try to gain their own life will lose it; but those who lose their life for My sake will gain it." These are hard words. We confess that we often close our ears and minds to this kind of risk. Lord, we are sorry for being unfaithful. Please forgive our fearful hearts. Lord, You alone know how desperately we need connection with You and with one another. Surround us with godly counsel that we can trust. Give us courage so that we may respond to Your call to us for a deeper life. Guide us, we pray, on an adventure of hope, where Christ Jesus remains at the center. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (from Psalm 91: 14-16)

Liturgist: Those who love me, I will deliver, says the Lord;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them,
With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Receive the good news of the gospel.

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

EQUIPPING

THE WORD

First Reading: *Ephesians 4: 20-23* NRSV *(page 951)*

One: This is the word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Reading: *Romans 12: 1-2* NRSV *(page 922)*

Sermon *"We are not our own, we are God's"*
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All -Church Spiritual Growth Campaign 2020
Rev. Jonathan Fettig

RESPONSE

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Apostles' Creed*

Please join me in the affirmation of faith, the Apostles Creed.
Brothers and sisters what do you believe?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Stewardship

At this time we are invited to join God in generosity. One of the most famous verses in the Bible, John 3:16 states, "for God so loved the world that He gave His Son. **So that whoever believes in Him might not perish but that they might have eternal life." We invite you to give, right now. You can navigate to the MPC website and click the GIVE ONLINE button in the top right corner. You can also mail a check or drop off a check in the church mailbox. If you are unable to give financially, you are still invited to Join Jesus in generosity. You may give your heart, you may give your life, you may give your service. If you would like to offer your gifts through the ministry of the church, please reach out to Pastor Jonathan or Pastor Rose. Freely you have received, freely give.**

Offering Song *Jesus, What A Savior*

*** Prayer of Dedication**

CELEBRATING THE LORD'S SUPPER

After the Words of Institution, we invite you to celebrate Communion using your bread and your juice. If you are in the sanctuary, you will be invited to take a single-serve communion cup. Remove the first wrapper for the wafer, the second for the grape juice.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them to the Lord.
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The prayer continues…

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.

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

Communion/ Meditation Sean Michael McDonald, Organ

Prayer of Affirmation

***Closing Hymn/Song** *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

***Postlude** Sean Michael McDonald, Organ

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Leading worship this morning…

Rev. Jonathan Fettig, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Rose Sparrow, *Interim Parish Associate*
Carrie Biermann, *Director of Children & Family Ministries*
Sebastian Carpenter, *Director of Contemporary Worship, Interim Youth Director*
Elder Kate Meehan, *Worship Leader*
Lisa VanHeldorf, *Choir Director*
Sean Michael McDonald, *Organist*

Small Group Questions

Romans 12: 1-2

Questions to ponder as we get to know a little about each other:

- As a teen, how did peer pressure affect the way you dressed? You acted?

Questions to help us dig into the Scripture:

- How can you offer your "body" as a living sacrifice?
- What does verse 1 add to your understanding of true worship (see also 6:13; 8:13)?
- In what was do you tend to conform to the world? How does the "renewing of your mind" happen (v. 2)?

Questions to help us apply the Scripture to our own life, to take personal inventory and share with the group what you are going to do as a result:

- How clear is your sense of the gifts God has given you? Are you inclined to "think of yourself more highly than you ought" (v. 3) or put yourself down?
- What holds you back from using your gifts more fully?