

**SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**  
**August 30, 2020**  
**The Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

*While in-person Worship services are suspended, Montgomery Presbyterian Church will be recording services. The following is an order of service that you can use to follow along with the recorded service, or use to read and reflect on your own. **Please join in the hymn and the responses!** The service will be posted on the church's Facebook page and You Tube. An email will be sent with links to the recorded service and the link will also appear on the church's website, [www.mpchurch.net](http://www.mpchurch.net) . Thank you for your cooperation and patience during this challenging time.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Elder of the Month: Beth Doebereiner (675-4295)
- Deacon of the Month: Lois Silber (791-1498)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Jesus, Luke 6:35-36

**What does Jesus ask us to do?**

**...love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.**

**HYMN**

*Come! Live in the Light!*

*Come! Live in the light!  
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called to be light for the kingdom,  
To live in the freedom of the city of God.*

*Refrain  
We are called to act with justice  
We are called to love tenderly  
We are called to serve one another  
To walk humbly with God*

*Come! Open your Heart!  
Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called to be hope for the hopeless*

*So hatred and Violence will be no more.*

*Refrain*

*We are called to act with justice*

*We are called to love tenderly*

*We are called to serve one another*

*To walk humbly with God*

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION**

*1 John 1:8-9*

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is merciful and just, will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith, let us confess our sin.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. Amen.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your righteousness we may discover your peace; in your love we may love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING**

*Matthew 18:15-20*

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get

behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

<sup>27</sup>“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

The Word of God for the people of God!  
**Thanks be to God!**

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### **SECOND READING**

*Romans 12: 9-21*

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” <sup>20</sup>No, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

The grass withers and the flower fades,  
But the word of our God endures forever.  
**Thanks be to God!**

**MESSAGE**

*Loving Your Enemies*

Elder Susie Lewis

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

“We are not alone, we live in God’s world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.”

**Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

... And now hear us as we pray as Jesus taught us:

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**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.**

## **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

May the God of glory, the Lord of life, and the Spirit of truth be with you now and forever, giving you strength to love your enemies as yourself.

**Amen.**

## **POSTLUDE**