

***The Charge**

Mark 12:28-31

Which commandment is the first of all?

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

And the second is this:

**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.
There is no other commandment greater than these.**

***The Blessing**

***Postlude**

“O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing”

AZMON
Glaser/Carter

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

Words in **bold** and double-indented are congregational responses.

The Morning Meditation is excerpted from a prayer composed by Rabbi Harold Kushner and published in Parade Magazine, March 23, 2003.

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Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version.

The Affirmation of Faith consists of excerpts from the Barmen Declaration in the PC (USA) *Book of Confessions* (8.11-8.28)

MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS A GREEN CONGREGATION.

Montreat Presbyterian Church • P.O. Box 577, Montreat, NC 28757 • (828) 664-9212 • www.MontreatChurch.org

MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Fifth Sunday in Easter

April 24, 2016, 9:00 A.M.

Morning Meditation

Harold Kushner

*“Let the rain come and wash away the ancient grudges,
The bitter hatreds held and nurtured over generations.
Let the warmth of the sun heal us wherever we are broken.
Let it burn away the fog so that we can see each other clearly.
So that we can see beyond labels, beyond accents, gender or skin color.
And let the light of the sun be so strong that we will see all people as our neighbors.”*

Chimes of the Trinity and Ritual of Fellowship

Voluntary

“Holy Manna”

HOLY MANNA

Columbian Harmony, 1825/Carter

***Call to Worship**

Psalm 148:11-13

Royals of the earth and all peoples, nobles and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for God’s name alone is exalted;

The glory of the LORD is above earth and heaven.

***Hymn 233**

“The Day of Resurrection!”

Unison Prayer of Confession

God of mercy,
Your command to love one another
Across all differences
Opens us to new horizons,
Yet we often respond with fear and judgment
That hinders your goal for humanity.
Forgive our sins, we pray,
And give us a true repentance
That leads to life for all creation.
We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 578 (unison)

“O Lord, Have Mercy”

Assurance of Pardon

Response 583

“Glory to God”

*The minister will sing once;
The congregation will then sing together.*

Prayer for Illumination

Reading from the Old Testament

Psalm 148

*Children who would like to continue with age-appropriate activities
may go with the Children’s Tabernacle greeter during the hymn.*

*** Hymn 22**

“God of the Sparrow”

Reading from the New Testament

Acts 11:1-18

The Sermon

“What God Has Made Clean”

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People and 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.**

***Hymn 610**

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

“Shall We Gather at the River”

HANSON PLACE
Lowry/Carter

***Doxology 607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore, amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Affirmation of Faith** (unison)

The Barmen Declaration

Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture,
is the one Word of God which we have to hear
and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.
As Jesus Christ is God’s assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins,
so, in the same way and with the same seriousness
he is also God’s mighty claim upon our whole life.
Through him befalls us a joyful deliverance
from the godless fetters of this world
for a free, grateful service to his creatures.
The Church’s commission, upon which its freedom is founded,
consists in delivering the message of the free grace of God
to all people in Christ’s stead, and therefore in the ministry
of his own Word and work, through sermon and sacrament.
The Church entreats us all to return to the unity
of faith, love, and hope.

***Gloria Patri 581**