

It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth,
nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.

**In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement
to the final triumph of God.**

***Hymn 718** “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

***The Charge** Matthew 16:13-15

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi,
he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”

**“Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah,
others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”**

And he said to them,

“But who do you say that I am?”

***Blessing and Sung Benediction 726 (verse 5)** “The Summons” (verse 5 only)

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you, and you in me.

***Postlude** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty ” set by John Carter

**The congregation is invited to stand.*

A hearing loop is active; set hearing aid to “T-coil.”

Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version.
The Morning Meditation is from Milton Birnbaum, *Aldous Huxley: A Quest for Values*
(Routledge, 2005).

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**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
AUGUST 27, 2017, 9:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

Aldous Huxley

*Every moment of our human life is a moment of crisis; for at every moment
we are called upon to make an all-important decision—to choose between the way
that leads to death and spiritual darkness, and the way that leads towards light and life;
between interests exclusively temporal, and the eternal order;
between our personal will, and the will of God.*

Chimes of the Trinity

Ritual of Fellowship

Minute for Mission

SVCM Presentation

Voluntary

“Beach Spring, Variation 1”

White/Carter

***Call to Worship**

from Psalm 124

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side—let Israel now say—

**If it had not been the LORD who was on our side,
then the flood would have swept us away,
the torrent would have gone over us;
then over us would have gone the raging waters.**

Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to the teeth of our enemies.

**Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

***Hymn 5**

“God, the Sculptor of the Mountains”

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Forgiving God, we confess that we are conformed to this world.

We conform to this world's frantic pace,
too hectic to notice all the blessings you provide.

We conform to this world's reckless waste,
exploiting what you entrust to our care.

We conform to this world's shallow values,
oblivious to the giftedness of people different from us.

We conform to this world's impatient attitudes,
preferring the latest instead of the lasting.

Forgive our conformity and transform us, O God.

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 575 (unison)

"Lord, Have Mercy upon Us"

Assurance of Pardon

Response 587

"Alleluia"

CELTIC ALLELUIA

Verses will be sung by the cantor.

Reading from the Gospel

Matthew 16:13-19

Reading from the New Testament Epistles

Romans 12:1-8

Hymn 710

"We Lift Our Voices"

*The verse will be sung once by the cantor,
then repeated twice by the congregation.*

Reading from the Old Testament

Exodus 1:8-2:10

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

"A Heroic Spirituality of Everyday Goodness"

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People & 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.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

"God, Whose Giving Knows no Ending"

Edwards/Woods
and Variation 2/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

Confession of 1967

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life:

social and cultural, economic and political,

scientific and technological, individual and corporate.

It includes the natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin.

It is the will of God that the divine purpose for human life

shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ

and all evil be banished from creation.

Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world,

stirring hope in all people

and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

With an urgency born of this hope,

the church applies itself to present tasks

and strives for a better world.