

***Hymn 158**

“Born in the Night, Mary’s Child”

***The Charge** (responsive)

Philippians 4:4-5

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say,

Rejoice!

Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

The Lord is near!

***Sung Benediction 188 (verse 1)**

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so.

Little ones to him belong. They are weak, but he is strong.

Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!

Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.

***Blessing** (minister)

Philippians 4:6-7

Do not worry about anything, but in everything,

by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving,

let your requests be made known to God.

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,

will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

**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.

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Montreat Presbyterian Church is an Earth Care congregation.

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OCTOBER 8, 2017, 9:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

Martin Buber (1878-1965)

“From my youth onwards I have found in Jesus my great brother. That Christianity has regarded and does regard him as God and Savior has always appeared to me a fact of the highest importance which, for his sake and my own, I must endeavor to understand. . . My own fraternally open relationship to him has grown ever stronger and clearer, and today I see him more strongly and clearly than ever before. I am more than ever certain that a great place belongs to him in Israel’s history of faith and that this place cannot be described by any of the usual categories.”

Chimes of the Trinity

Ritual of Fellowship

Voluntary

“Bereden Vag For Herran”

setting by John Carter

***Call to Worship**

Psalms 19:1-4a, 14

The heavens are telling the glory of God;

and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech,

and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

Yet their voice goes out through all the earth,

and their words to the end of the world.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

***Hymn 1**

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Rescuing God, you brought us out of the land of captivity,
out of the house of slavery.

**Forgive us when we willingly return to slavery,
making divine the machine of production,
crafting idols from the excess of consumption.**

Forgive us when we consider ourselves so grand
that we do not rest and enjoy your presence,
defining ourselves by our ability rather than your love.

**Forgive us when we esteem ourselves so little
that we dare not rest and sit with ourselves, exposed,
without the cloak of productivity.**

Forgive us when we deem our species so central
that we do not rest and halt consumption, decimating Earth,
denying her Sabbath and integrity.

**Forgive us through Christ, who redeems us
from the brokenness of slavery, that we might enjoy
your presence, creation, and community. Amen.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Kyrie Eleison 579 (unison)

“Lord, Have Mercy”

Assurance of Pardon

Response 447

“We Are Forgiven”

Minute for Mission

Global Missions

Reading from the Old Testament

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Hymn 61

“Your Law, O Lord, Is Perfect”

Reading from the New Testament Epistles

Philippians 3:4-14

***Hymn 721**

“Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore”

The Sermon

“The Surpassing Value of Knowing”

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.

Offering of our Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE (Irish Folk Tune)

setting by John 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 and Affirmation of Faith**

The Apostles’ Creed

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 Ghost, 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 Ghost; the holy catholic Church;

the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.