

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

A Declaration of Faith

**We know that God is not confined to the story we can tell.  
The story itself tells us God works the divine, sovereign will  
among all peoples of the earth.**

**We believe God works beyond our imagining  
throughout the universe.**

**We must not set our ultimate reliance on any other help.  
We must not yield unconditional obedience to any other power.  
We must not love anyone or anything more than we love God.  
To worship God is highest joy. To serve God is perfect freedom.**

**\*Hymn 822**

“When We Are Living”

**\*The Charge**

II Timothy 3:14, 4:2

Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed,  
**knowing how you have known the sacred writings  
that instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.**  
Proclaim the message; be persistent, in season and out of season,  
**whether the time is favorable or unfavorable.**

**\*Choral Benediction**

“Threefold Amen”

DANISH AMEN

**\*Blessing**

**\*Postlude**

“Gavotte”

Handel

*\*The congregation is invited to stand.*

Words in bold and double-indented are congregational responses. The Morning Meditation is from Ruth Bowen, “God of the Harvest,” in Ruth Burgess, ed., *Acorns and Archangels* (Glasgow: Wild Goose Publications, 2009), 145. The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are adapted and reprinted with permission from *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2 © 2013 Westminster John Knox Press. Scripture passages are read from the New Revised Standard Version.

**MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY**

**October 20, 2019, 10:00 A.M.**

**Morning Meditation**

Ruth Bowen

*Creator God, reconnect us to your creation, to its order and resources.  
Redeemer God, reconcile us to your creation, to each other and to you.  
Spirit God, renew us to live within your creation,  
aware of its seasons and our neighbors’ needs.*

**Prelude**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

Burkhardt

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Ritual of Fellowship**

**Choral Introit**

“O Day of Rest and Gladness” Wordsworth/Memmingen

**\*Call to Worship**

No matter how far from God we seem to be, we do not lose heart:

**For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

No matter how many obstacles we face in life, in the church, we do not lose heart:

**For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.**

No matter how hard it is to pray continually and work for justice,  
we do not lose heart:

**For the days are surely coming, says the Lord,  
when I will forgive and restore my people;  
when I will equip them for every good work;  
for I hear their cries day and night.**

**\*Hymn 12**

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

**Prayer of Confession** (followed by silent prayer)

**Gracious God, we confess  
that we do not meditate on your commands and teachings all day long.  
We do not keep your word before us always and in all things.  
We turn away from your demanding truth  
and wander toward easier options.  
Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours.  
Forgive us for growing weary in following you;  
for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world.  
We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

**Kyrie Eleison 577**

“Lord, Have Mercy”

**Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy;  
Lord, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Response 447** (unison)

“We Are Forgiven”

**We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God!  
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God!**

**Stewardship Moment**

Eric Nichols

**Scripture Reading**

Jeremiah 31:31-34

**Choral Anthem**

“We the Lord's People”

arr. J.H. Rickard

*We the Lord's people, heart and voice uniting, praise God who called us out of darkness,  
light and truth revealing. Bring we now before God all our gladness and joy.  
O God, Creator, Son and Holy Spirit, Trinity blessed, heavenly light,  
the source of our salvation: Shine forth in our living now and forever. Amen.*

**Scripture Reading**

Luke 18:1-8

**Hymn 175**

“Seek Ye First”

**Scripture Reading**

II Timothy 3:14-4:5

**Sermon**

“In Season and Out of Season”

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 Tithes and Gifts**

**Offertory**

Variation on “PROSPECT”

*Southern Harmony*

**\*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**