



SHALLOTTE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

9th Sunday after Pentecost | July 30, 2023

"TURN TO ME AND HAVE MERCY ON ME,
AS YOU ALWAYS DO TO THOSE WHO LOVE YOUR NAME."

PSALM 119:132

*(*Indicates where it is appropriate, but not necessary, to stand.
All speak words in **boldface**.)*

Please welcome Rev. Joel M. Long, who is filling in for Pastor George today.

CALLED BY GOD WE GATHER

GATHERING MUSIC, WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LA REJOUISSANCE

G. F. HANDEL

Guest Organist - Judy Duva

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CALLED TO WORSHIP IN RINGING THE TRINITY AND IN MUSIC *(WHEN
THE CHIMES TOLL, LET US SILENTLY OPEN OUR SPIRIT TO GOD'S PRESENCE.)*

"AVE MARIA"

FRANZ SCHUBERT

OPENING SENTENCES & PRAYER

Beth Elliott, Liturgist

The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.

It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.

When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.

Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.

The kingdom of heaven is like yeast in bread dough.

It constantly changes the things it touches.

All: Let us worship the God of surprises and change!

*HYMN #35 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty" LOBE DEN HERREN

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess we like our questions answered, immediately and our needs met, quickly. We loathe having to wait for anything. Remind us that seeds grow slowly in your kingdom. Give us new hearts and minds to wait upon your goodness, O God. We pray in Christ's name. Amen!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Great is the faithfulness of our loving God. New are God's mercies and amazing is God's grace. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Christ, our sins are forgiven!

Blessed be the One who forgives our sins and cleanses us of all unrighteousness!

*GLORY BE TO THE FATHER #581

GLORIA PATRI (Greatorex)

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD OF GRACE

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 119:129-136

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

MUSIC "Gabriel's Oboe: Ennio Morriconi"
Performed by Lynn Auman & Chad Hammer

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 13:31-33

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

SERMON "The Power of Small" Rev. Joel M. Long

TO RESPOND IN FAITH WITH GRATITUDE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

(Excerpt from Confession of 1967, Book of Confessions-PCUSA)

"Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's 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. 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."

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LORD'S PRAYER

hymnal p. 35

OFFERING

*Doxology #606, *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*Prayer of Dedication

THEN DEPART BLESSED TO SERVE

*HYMN #697

"Take My Life"

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

SENDING MUSIC

RONDEAU

JEAN MOURET



Rev. George W. Chapman III (church@atmc.net)
Kathy Sasso, Office Administrator;
Linda Rowell, Church Treasurer; Joyce Winkler, Qualified Ruling Elder;
Rev. Cathy Chang & Juan Lopez, Philippines Mission Workers

