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September 29, 2024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF TOPEKA

Loving God, loving neighbors, and living with purpose

785.233.9601

www.fpctopeka.org

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September 29, 2024

Order of Worship

19th Sunday After Pentecost

Where you see an asterisk (), please rise in body or spirit.*

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC (10:30) — 3 Settings: “Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam”

(“Christ our Lord to Jordan came”) — Pachelbel, Cattaneo, Zachow

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WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leader: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

PRELUDE — Toccata on “Madrid” (“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”) — Richard Unfried

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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Created in God's loving image,

People: **We gather as the children of God.**

Leader: Beloved by Christ, who loves us well,

People: **We gather as the beloved body of Christ.**

Leader: Blessed by the Spirit of God,

People: **We gather in the power of the Holy Spirit.**

*OPENING PRAYER

***OPENING HYMN #267 — “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we know that you speak to us every day, yet we have stuffed our lives with so many distractions that we often cannot hear you. Your love for us is beyond all reason and understanding, yet we strive for the approval of people we barely know. You wash us clean in baptism, yet we cannot seem to lay down our burdens of guilt and shame. Surround us with your grace, O God. Help us to be merciful to others and to ourselves, as you are merciful to all of us.

SILENT CONFESSION and KYRIE — #551

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***#583 — “Glory to God”**

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE PROCLAIM GOD’S WORD

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

MINISTRY OF MUSIC — “A Baptism Carol” — Mark Wilson

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PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING — Psalm 29 — pg. 504 in OT

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING — Matthew 3:13-17 — pg. 3 in NT

Leader: This is the word of the lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE — “Like the Light Breaking Through Our Windows, Part 4: The Baptism of Jesus”

WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD

***HYMN #282 — “Come Down, O Love Divine” (10:30 only)**

BAPTISM OF GRIFFIN LEWIS/WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Apostles’ Creed (p. 17 in *Glory to God* hymnal)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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

Offertory (8:30) — Variation on “Down Ampney” (“Come Down, O Love Divine”)

— Jan Bender

© 1971 Augsburg Publishing House

(10:30) — “Behold the Lamb of God” — Clement W. Barker

© 1969 Carl Fischer, Inc

***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**

WE DEPART IN JOY TO SERVE

***SENDING HYMN #297 — “In Christ Called to Baptize” (8:30 vv 1 and 4)**

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION — All-Church Prayer (see insert)**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION — “May the Road Rise to Meet You” — Richard Kent**

© 1970 Plymouth Music

POSTLUDE — “St. Denio” — (“In Christ Called to Baptize”) — Wilbur Held

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Ministers: All the Members of the Congregation

Pastors:

The Rev. Sandra Stogsdill Nichols, *Pastor*

Patrick Yancey, *Commissioned Associate Pastor*

The Rev. Dr. Neil Weatherhogg, *Pastor Emeritus*

Liturgist: Jim Owen

Music Staff:

Dr. Kevin Kellim, *Director of Music*

Dr. Dina Pannabecker Evans, *Organist*

Dr. Cynthia Neufeld Smith, *Assistant Organist*

Norma Pettijohn, *Organist Emeritus*

Soloist: Steve Crouch

Fellowship Hosts: Julie Lady and Lauren Lewis

Audio/Video: Treven Broxterman, Will Hartner

Assistant to the Pastors: Treven Broxterman

Facilities Manager: Steve Johnson

Family Ministries Coordinator: Herman Jones

Finance Assistant: Penny Allton

Childcare Attendants:

Becky Foster, Samantha Edwards,

Maresella Newton

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

John Dorsey, Jane Owen