



**Presbytery of Lake Michigan**  
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)

**June 9, 2026**  
**We Gather to Worship**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

**Elder Deb Flietstra (GR Westminster)**

We come together as people of the cross and resurrection.

**We come as children of our Creator**

Reconciled by grace through our Redeemer

**And filled with God's love through our Sustainer.**

Let us worship God together

**Alleluia, let us worship God!**

**\*Hymn #475 (GTG)**

**"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"**

**Call to Confession**

**Elder Brian Koon (Lansing First)**

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were yet sinners Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Triune God, You gather, protect, and care for us, your beloved, through Word and Spirit. This you have done from the beginning of the world and will do to the end. Have mercy upon us and forgive us for sinning against you. We have not loved one another as we should. We have not sown the seeds of gospel hope. We have supported the enmity and hatred in the world instead of being a visible sign of unity and love. Restore us, Lord. May we give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another, that we may truly share one faith, have one calling, and be of one soul and one mind for the sake of your son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. <sup>1</sup>**

*Silence*

**Assurance of God's Love and Sharing in Christ's Peace**

Friends, trust in God, who raised Jesus, breaking the power of sin and evil. God's Spirit frees us to accept ourselves, and to love God and neighbor. Binding us together as the body of the Risen Christ in the covenant of love we inherit, God remains faithful still.

**We belong to God! With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.**

<sup>1</sup> Adapted from the Belhar Confession, Sections 1&2

The same Spirit who inspired prophets and apostles feeds us with the bread of life. In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to witness among all people as we work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. May the peace of Christ be with you! <sup>2</sup>

**And also with you!**

## **We Hear the Word**

### **Prayer for Illumination**

**Rev. Mary Austin (VM)**

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.

### **Scripture Reading**

**Luke 15:1-32**

**Rev. Mary Austin (VM)  
Elder Lori MacMillan Ladd (Brooklyn)**

### **Message**

**“The Compassionate Father and the Two Lost Sons”**

**Dr. Matt Aragon Bruce (Synod of the Covenant)**

## **We Respond to the Word**

### **\*Hymn #753 (GTG)**

**“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”**

### **Offering**

**Rev. Sheth LaRue (Benton Harbor First)**

*The offering today is designated to support Presbyterian Disaster Assistance*

### **Offertory**

### **\*Doxology**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost!**

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**Rev. Sheth LaRue (Benton Harbor First)**

**God of all mercies, we give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all people. Give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory now and forever. Amen.**

### **Celebration of the Lord’s Supper**

**Rev. Mackenzie Jager (Muskegon First)**

<sup>2</sup> Adapted from a Brief Statement of Faith

## Invitation

### Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you,  
**and also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*The prayer continues...*

...Until we see you face-to-face and sit at the great banquet table with all your beloved people, we pray in the way you taught us, saying:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, they will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

### Words of Institution

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

**Great is the mystery of faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

### Prayer After Communion

**Holy God, may the love we've found at this table be reflected in our lives. May the nourishment we've received at this table make us into peacemakers and healers. And may your Holy Spirit—who is always with us—give us the courage and the language to share the good news in everything we say and everything we do. Amen!**

\*Hymn #765 (GTG)

"Song of Hope"

Charge and Benediction

Dr. Matt Aragon Bruce

Postlude

*Thank you to all those who participated in leading worship today.*

Accompanist: Melody Pollard