

September 17, 2017
24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

GOD'S PEOPLE PREPARE FOR THE WORD

As we gather, some of our number have found it helpful to begin worship with a time of group singing and praise a few moments prior to worship each week. If you choose not to participate in the singing, and would prefer to visit or make personal connections at this time, please use the Assembly Room for these purposes. We hope that this extended time brings an opportunity to embrace the Lord in worship.

Gathering Music: Hymn #29

Wonderful Words of Life

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Our Friendship in Christ

*Call to Worship: *(Responsive)*

Sisters and brothers, children in Christ: gather that we may be fed by the One who gives life.

Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk according to the law of God.

Love God, and obey the commandments God has given; choose life, that you and your descendants may live.

Blessed are those who keep God's testimonies, who seek God with their whole heart.

Let righteousness and faithfulness be your goals. Let reconciliation be the mark of all your relationships.

We will praise God with upright hearts, fixing our eyes on all God's commandments.

*Hymn of Praise and Adoration: Hymn #457

Take Time to Be Holy

Prayer of Confession: *(Responsive, including a time of silent prayer)*

Sovereign God, we confess that we have chosen death and evil instead of life and good. That is not what we intended. We tried to listen to your voice. We tried to see the path where you wanted to lead us. We tried to breathe in your presence and let your love help us grow. But instead, we relaxed some of your commandments and broke others, offended some of your children and hurt others.

(A time for silent confession)

Forgive us, we pray, and go with us to bring reconciliation and healing in our relationships, Christ being our guide. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *(Responsive)*

Beloved, this is the Good News! Your sins are forgiven.

I believe that God, because of Christ's atonement, will never hold against me any of my sins nor my sinful nature, which I need to struggle against all my

life. Rather, in his grace God grants me the righteousness of Christ to free me forever from judgement.

– based on the Heidelberg Catechism

Congregational Response: Hymn #161, v.1

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

GOD'S PEOPLE RECEIVE THE WORD

The Prayer for Illumination

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:17-20

(NIV)

This is the Word of the Lord;

Thanks be to God!

The Children's Sermon

Young children may worship with their families or may go to the Infant-Toddler Room behind the sanctuary. Children age 3 – 1st grade may be dismissed to the Children's Room at this time.

The New Testament Reading: 2 Peter 3:14-18

(NIV)

This is the Word of the Lord;

Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Is There Room for Growth?

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND TO THE WORD

*Hymn of Reflection: (see screen)

Speak, O Lord

Profession of Faith (From *The Confession of Belhar*):

Pastor: Don't we all come from one Father? Aren't we all created by the same God? So why can't we get along? Why do we desecrate the covenant of our ancestors that binds us together? (Malachi 2:10)

Men: So Peter opened his mouth and said, "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him." (Acts 10:34-35)

Women: There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. (Galatians 3:28)

Men: And they sang a new song, saying, "Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation." (Revelation 5:9)

Women: But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7)

The Commissioning of Marla Barrett as Program Director of The Open Door
The Presentation

The Questions to Ms. Barrett

The Questions to the Congregation:

Do you, the people of this congregation, accept Marla as a friend to lead us in mission, and do you promise to support her with your work and prayers?

I do.

Do you promise to pay her fairly and to work with her to display God's purposes for the children and families in our community?

I do.

The Prayer of Commissioning:

The Pastor will lead in a prayer, which will close with this unison prayer:

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: in every age you have appointed leaders to tell of your power, justice, and love. We thank you for those in our lives who have taught us the way of your Son. We thank you for calling Marla to serve in ministry at this time. We pray that you would give her your Holy Spirit, that she might know your Son our Lord more fully, speak his truth more deeply, and live faithfully with us the new life, serving neighbors and obeying your commands; through Jesus Christ our Savior, Amen.

Prayers of the People & the Lord's Prayer
Joys and Concerns

Presenting our Tithes and Offerings

The Invitation to the Offering (Responsive)

With these gifts we offer you our lives to God to do His work in the world, that he might take our bodies and our minds,

Our work and our leisure,

Our relationships with other people,

Our friendships and our family life,

Our dreams and our doubts,

Our faith and our plans for the future.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord,

Let us bring them to God. Amen.

Offertory

*Congregational Response: Blue Songbooks #61 *Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart*

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn of Dedication: (see screen)

Unchanging

*Charge & Benediction

Postlude

***Please stand, if able.**

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR TODAY

Leading in Worship: Marla Barrett, Mollie Sam

Toddler Room: Jessalyn Gielarowski, Mary Beth Barnes

Childcare: Dani Anderson

Greeters: Don Prevost & Glenn Mack

WORSHIP LEADERS FOR SEPTEMBER 24th

Leading in Worship: Jon Walker

Toddler Room: Jenn McNamara, Dani Anderson

Childcare: Jess Simcox

Greeters:

Opportunities for the Week of September 17th

Sunday	9/17	12:15 pm	Coffee Hour
		7:00 pm	Youth Group
Monday	9/18	9:00 am	Exercise
Tuesday	9/19	8:30 am	Staff Meeting
		7:30 pm	Dartball @ Legion
Wednesday	9/20	9:00 am	Exercise
		5:45 pm	Session Dinner
		6:30 pm	Session Worship
		7:00 pm	Session Meeting
Thursday	9/21	10:00 am	Presbytery Meeting @ Crestfield
Friday	9/22	9:00 am	Exercise
Sunday	9/24	9:30 am	Faithbuilders
		10:30 am	Volunteer Meeting
		11:00 am	Worship
		7:00 pm	Youth Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Printed copies of the Sermon are also available on the shelves in the back of the sanctuary and on the web at: www.chup.org . Each worship service is also recorded on audio CD. In addition to being on the church website, all of Pastor Dave's sermons are posted on his blog at www.castyournet.wordpress.com.

1. There is a **Coffee Hour** immediately following Worship today. Everyone is invited to stay for refreshments and fellowship. If you would like to contribute something to this gathering, please contact Gabe and Michele Kish 412-922-1950.

2. **Thank you to everyone who came out and supported the CHUP Blood Drive.** We collected 35 units of blood with 4 deferrals. That is AMAZING! Please mark your calendars for the next drive Sunday, December 10. We hope to see you there. If you have any questions, please contact the CHUP Blood Drive Coordinators at chupblooddrives@gmail.com by phone at [412-922-1950](tel:412-922-1950).

3. **After School begins tomorrow, 9/18!** If you are dropping your child off, please be sure to bring them to The Open Door. We will be there until approximately 4:00 each day. Also, please remember that we will NOT have After School this Thursday, 9/21, but will resume as scheduled next week.

4. **Please join us for a Preschool Fundraiser** on Tuesday, October 17. We will meet at Mad Mex in Robinson for great food, great fun, and of course, a great cause! Tickets are \$30, and include a fajita buffet, wings, chips, salsa, guacamole, soft drinks, and brownies. There are only 53 tickets available, so be sure to see Cheri Mack to reserve your spot!

5. Please consider joining us on the **All Church Retreat at Crestfield Camp and Conference Center** in Slippery Rock October 20 – 22. Scholarship help is available, if needed. To obtain a registration form, or for any other questions you may have, please speak with Barb Prevost 412-922-8240. Come, relax, worship...you'll be glad you did!

6. **The Fricks have a new address!** 340 Malden Rd, Coal Center, PA 15243. Please keep this for your records.

7. **Tina Dame has a new address!** 25 E Crafton Ave, Apt 413, Pittsburgh, PA 15205. Please keep this for your records.

8. For about a decade, CHUP has sent an **Adult Mission Team to Texas** to share in the work of our partners there in helping neighbors recover from natural disasters. This year, that mission may have special focus in light of the devastation of Hurricane Harvey. We are beginning to think about plans for a trip to occur in February/March 2018. If you would like information about how you can participate in a week-long service and learning opportunity like this, please speak with Gabe Kish or Pastor Dave Carver.

My Daily Time with God This Week September 17th – September 24th

One of the ways that we can best remember who we are, and who God calls us to be, is to spend time in His presence. In 2017, we will follow the devotional schedule published by *The Upper Room*. To receive devotions in your e-mail each day, simply visit <http://www.upperroom.org/devotional/email/> and sign up. May God bless you as you seek Him!

God's Promise: "If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."
(*2 Chronicles 7:14*)

Psalm for the week: Psalm 114 (*Read this through prayerfully each day. As you do so, you will concentrate less on yourself and more on your Lord.*)

Daily Scripture Readings:

Monday	Matthew 11:28-30	Friday	1 Kings 17:8-24
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11	Saturday	Psalm 139:13-18
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 12:12-20	Sunday	Luke 18:9-14
Thursday	Romans 12:1-8		

Speaking with your Creator:

- about your own life
- about those in our family of faith

--**members** – Kenneth Hershberger, Bonnie Schrenker, Florence Hall, Deb Jacob, Tina Dame, Ed Kososki, Dolly Bock, Linnea Kunicky, Maryanne Richardson, Cheryl Reed, Joey Szumigalski & family, Justin & Eric Barth, Lauren Mack in Malawi, the homebound and those in caring facilities.

--**friends & relatives** – Elizabeth Shrader, Gloria Leonard, Buckley Family, Ross Family, Anya Maciulewski, Linda Richardson, Lisa & Nicholas Daugherty, Rita Imhoff, Lorraine Barth, Duane Eagan, Eadie Children, Gary Rivit, Betty Hartlep, Krieger family, Mark Mattern, Elijah Todd, Harold Garrison.

--**about our world** – Students & Teachers returning to school, Friends & Family in the Armed Forces, World peace, the Mbenjere Church of Central Africa Presbyterian, members of the church in South Sudan, Veterans & disabled, poor & needy, those persecuted and martyred for their faith. (*If you would like to include someone in your prayers, please fill out an "I Wish" card from the pews.*)

Listening to your Creator: -a time of silence

Going out into your world: -remembering that God sends you to the people he loves.

Church Prayer Families: Arlene Donovan & Michelle Salinetto

Open Door Prayer Family: Delaney's Family