

Great Kills Moravian Church
Order of Worship – Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 15, 2024 11:00am

Reflection Upon Entering The Pew:

Speaking Wisely

*Pleasant words are like a honeycomb, sweet and delightful to the soul
and healing to the body. Proverbs 16:24*

*The words we use when we talk to and about others affect us as much as
they affect other people. We can encourage ourselves by encouraging
others. We do eat the fruits of what we say (Proverbs 18:21). If we
believe this to be true we will use the wisdom that God has given us when
we choose our words. Words are more powerful than we can imagine.*

*Dear God, I need help with the words that I use. Please help me choose
my words carefully. Help me make a difference in the lives of others. I
pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.*

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Watchword for the Week: Jesus asked, “But who do you say,
that I am?” Mark 8:29

(Please Stand if able.)

Call To Worship:

L: Come away from dullness and complacent complicity, wake
up! God is calling us to listen and learn.

**A: The heavens are telling the glory of God. The
firmament proclaims God's handiwork.**

L: How long will we refuse the wisdom God offers? How long
will we ignore God's counsel and reproof?

**A: The law of God is perfect, reviving the soul. The
decrees of God are sure, making wise the simple.**

L: Our waywardness separates us from God. Then, when we
call on God, we hear no answer.

A: We gather to renew our relationship with God. We seek enlightenment and the revival of our souls.

(Please continue to Stand if able.)

Gathering Hymn: “Call Together and United” MBW Page 624

Liturgy: Servanthood

From Sing To The Lord A New Song A New Moravian Songbook Page 1

O Lord, our God, your wisdom and power are beyond our comprehension. Yet our hearts know you intimately.

Our love for you and our awe of you join together in our praise to your holy name.

You are the one we turn to when we hear your invitation to be your disciples; when we feel the call to servanthood.

You, O Lord, provide strength and wisdom for each day and hope for the journey.

It is by faith in you that we respond to your call to serve.

We believe that you are our source of love and provide the resources for loving.

We believe that you redeem not only our lives but also our actions so that our small human offerings have divine results.

We believe that your Spirit empowers us to be all that you created us to be for your purpose.

Hymn: CASSEL (167 A), hymn 84

Holy God of all creation, give us vision, love and nerve to respond to our first calling on this earth to care and serve.

Show the world by our example how to live each waking hour, as we strive to humbly follow, sharing your creative power.

(Sitting)

Yet the call to serve can, at times, be overwhelming. The need before us is more than one person can handle alone.

We thank you, Lord, for calling us to work as one body. Your Body is made manifest in us as we work together to serve your children.

Lord, many people in our community show your love through their actions.

They shelter the homeless. They feed the hungry. They

accompany the elderly. They champion the battle with mental illness. They help others become better parents. They donate their blood, their sweat, and their personal belongings.

Lord, many people in our church generously offer their lives to your service.

They teach your word. They visit the sick and home-bound. They provide fellowship for our church family. They serve as leaders and decision makers. They make worship a meaningful experience. They support our ministry in prayer.

Hymn: “Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”

MBW Page 688 v.1

Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need, who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy’s perfect deed: we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart, consecrating to your purpose ev-’ry gift which you impart.

(Please Stand if able.)

Lord, we thank you for these people whom you have joined together for your purpose.

We thank you for people who live what they believe and believe what they live. We thank you for the Spirit of Christ which dwells in such people in our church and community.

By your grace, Lord, we stand among those who will hear you say, “I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, sick and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.”

And we will say, “Lord, when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, or a stranger, or naked or in prison?”

And you will assure us, Lord, with your words, “Just as you have done it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”

Hymn: “Christ, Engage Us in Your Mission”

MBW Page 684

(Sitting)

Offering Our Gifts To God

Offertory

(Please stand if able)

Doxology: "For The Life That You Have Given"

MBW Page 819

For the life that you have given, for the love in Christ made known, with these fruits of time and labor, with these gifts that are your own: here we offer, Lord, our praises; heart and mind and strength we bring. Give us grace to love and serve you, living what we pray and sing.

Prayer of Blessing:(All) O God, the source of all wisdom and truth. You are the giver of blessings, you offer wholeness in this broken world: you offer wellbeing to each and every person: you offer the holy work of sharing your good news through all we say and do. May we receive what you offer in gratitude and awe. May we then share what you so freely give, so others will know the truth of salvation, your healing.

(From The Daily Text 8/25/2024)

We want to learn from and to serve you is our highest joy. May these offerings and our daily lives spread your message in knowing you and following Christ. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen

(Sitting)

God's Word for Today:

1st Scripture Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a Pew Bible Page 769

2nd Scripture Reading: James 3:1-12 (Responsive Reading)
Pew Bible Page 1267

1 Not many of you should become teachers, my fellow believers, because you know that we who teach will be judged more strictly. **2 We all stumble in many ways. Anyone who is never at fault in what they say is perfect, able to keep their whole body in check.**3 When we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we can turn the whole animal. **4 Or take ships as an example. Although they are so large and are driven by strong winds, they are steered by a very small rudder wherever the pilot wants to go.** 5 Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark. **6 The tongue also is a fire, a world of**

evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell. 7 All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind, **8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.** 9 With the tongue we praise our Lord and Father, and with it we curse human beings, who have been made in God's likeness. **10 Out of the same mouth come praise and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this should not be.** 11 Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring? **12 My brothers and sisters, can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs? Neither can a salt spring produce fresh water.**

The Gospel Reading: Mark 8: 27-38

Pew Bible Page 1055

Message: "Learning To Bite Our Tongue."

Pastor Jesus Laguerra

Hymn Response To Message: "Be Thou My Vision"

MBW Page 719 vs. 1, 2

Prayers Of The People:

The Lord's Prayer: (ALL) 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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.

(Please Stand if able.)

Sending Hymn: "Be Thou My Vision" MBW Page 719 vs. 3,4

Benediction

Musical Response: (All) In the name of Jesus. Amen

(Please remain seated in quiet meditation during the postlude.)

Postlude

Calendar and Announcements

September 15 – September 22, 2024

Sunday	9:30am	Sunday School
	11:00am	Worship Service
Thursday	11:00am	Elders Meeting via Zoom
Friday	10:00am	Craft Group
Sunday	9:30am	Sunday School
	11:00am	Worship Service

Prayers For: *John Ducey, Bill and Carol Burt, Susan C, Barbara F, Frank and family, Nicholas Falvey and his family, Joanne K, Joyce Fernandez, Captain J. King, Madeline M, Doug Wycoff, Sean and family, Thora Mae and family* (**Please contact the church office to add or remove names from the prayer list**)

Current Sign-Up Sheets

(These are on the Sign-Up Board outside the upstairs coat closet)

- **Fellowship Hour (Ongoing)**

Next Sunday, September 22, 2024, we will be welcoming back Sister Susan Attzs Mendoza. Please come and join us for worship.