

September 27, 2026 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Prayer Day for Church Ministry to Older Adults
Worship Aid for Great Kills Moravian Church
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/352704864?pwd=V28wNGtRdXFESDBzRW9OSWdaQTZGZzo9> Call in
number: 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 352 704
864 Password: 401272

Reflection:

If you trust in God to guide you and place your confidence in him, you'll find him always there beside you to give you hope and strength within: for those who trust God's changeless love built on the rock that will not move.

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Watchword for The Week: Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus. Philippians 2:5

(Stand if able)

Call To Worship:

L: Good morning, worshipers! God's Holy Spirit is in this place. Welcome the Holy Spirit into your hearts as we gather for worship.

A: With the power of the Holy Spirit guiding us, we worship God with joy and vigor.

Please join me in this prayer:

Creative God: Thank you for faith that draws us into vibrant and vital service in the name of Jesus Christ. Today, we recognize the tremendous witness of older adults. Their ministries demonstrate that Christian service lasts a lifetime. Inspire us through this worship service to join in the ministry with the faithful of all ages as well as places to proclaim your glory while lifting high the name of Jesus. Also, allow us to have some fun in the sharing of our service. We pray for such ministries in Jesus' powerful name. Amen

L: In You, O Lord, I put my trust, for you are my strong refuge. Let my mouth be filled with your praise

A: I will praise you yet more and more; my mouth shall

tell of your righteousness and your salvation all the day.

L: O God, You have taught me from my youth; and to this day, I declare your wondrous works.

A: Now also when I am old and gray headed, O God, do not forsake me, until I declare your strength to this generation and your power to everyone who is to come.

All: Let's worship our God together!

(Please remain standing if able.)

**Gathering Hymn: "Standing On the Promises" Celebration
Hymnal Book Page 410 vs. 1, 2, 5**

**Standing on the promises of Christ, my King! Thro' eternal ages
let His praises ring; "Glory in the highest!" I will shout and sing,
Standing on the promises of God. Stand-ing, stand-ing, Standing
on the promises of God my Savior; Stand ing, stand-ing, I'm
stand-ing on the promises of God.**

**Standing on the promises that cannot fail, When the howling
storms of doubt and fear assail, By the living Word of God I shall
prevail, Standing on the promises of God. Stand-ing, stand-ing,
Standing on the promises of God my Savior; Stand-ing, stand-
ing, I'm stand-ing on the promises of God.**

**Standing on the promises, I cannot fall, Lis-t'ning ev-ery
moment to the Spirit's call, Resting in my Savior as my All in All,
Standing on the promises of God. Stand-ing, stand-ing, Standing
on the promises of God my Savior; Stand-ing, stand-ing, I'm
stand-ing on the promises of God.**

(Please remain standing if you are comfortable doing so.)

Liturgy: Prayer Day for Older Adults

We gather today to give thanks for older adults.

They are gifts from God.

We admire those who are older than we are. They have lifelong wisdom, experience, and knowledge.

**We strive to also grow in wisdom, experience
and knowledge.**

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision MBW Page 719 v. 2

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word, I ever with thee
and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa__ther, I thy true
son;__ thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

We remember so many who have gone before us and who have taught us how to be faithful before God.

**We admire our older adults not just for what they
do but for who they are as loving guides.**

We seek to follow in our seniors' footsteps and to become faithful like them before God.

We are thankful for the lessons in life older adults teach us.

We see their witness in the courage to overcome fear, the ability to see good in all people, what it means to forgive deep hurt, and the patience to wait on the Lord.

**We hope to become like them one day, golden. We give
thanks for the opportunity to learn from those who are
the Master's teachers, those who have mastered life.**

Hymn: Be Thou My Vision MBW Pg. 719 v. 1

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; nought be all else to me
save that thou art-__ thou my Best thought,__ by day or by
night,__ waking or sleeping, by presence my light.**

(Sitting)

Offering our Gifts to God

Offertory

(Please stand if able.)

Doxology: "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" MBW Page 817

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all
creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen**

Prayer of Blessing: Please join me in the Prayer of Blessing.

**Loving God, receive our offerings to your honor and glory. Keep
us ever mindful of the wisdom and gifts of our older adults who**

help us to grow in love and service to one another throughout our span of life. Please continue to fill us with your Holy Spirit, that, as a community of faith, we may all share in the accomplishments of your work in the world and together reflect the fullness of your image from generation to generation, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit. In your son's name we pray. Amen

(Sitting)

God's Word for Today:

1st Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32 Pew Bible Page 881

The Soul Who Sins Will Die

The word of the LORD came to me: “What do you people mean by quoting this proverb about the land of Israel: “‘The parents eat sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge’? “As surely as I live, declares the Sovereign LORD, you will no longer quote this proverb in Israel. For everyone belongs to me, the parent as well as the child—both alike belong to me. The one who sins is the one who will die.

“Yet you say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Hear, you Israelites: Is my way unjust? Is it not your ways that are unjust? If a righteous person turns from their righteousness and commits sin, they will die for it; because of the sin they have committed they will die. But if a wicked person turns away from the wickedness they have committed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. Because they consider all the offenses they have committed and turn away from them, that person will surely live; they will not die. Yet the Israelites say, ‘The way of the Lord is not just.’ Are my ways unjust, people of Israel? Is it not your ways that are unjust?

“Therefore, you Israelites, I will judge each of you according to your own ways, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent! Turn away from all your offenses; then sin will not be your downfall. Rid yourselves of all the offenses you have committed, and get a new heart and a new spirit. Why will you die, people of Israel? For I take no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Sovereign LORD. Repent and live!

2nd Scripture Reading: Philippians 2:1-13 Pew Bible Page 1230

Imitating Christ's Humility

If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of purpose. Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of the others. In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death—even death on a cross! Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:23-32 Pew Bible Page 1032

The Authority of Jesus Questioned Matthew 21:23-27

Jesus entered the temple courts, and, while he was teaching, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him. “By what authority are you doing these things?” they asked. “And who gave you this authority?”

Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question. If you answer me, I will tell you by what authority I am doing these things. John’s baptism—where did it come from? Was it from heaven, or of human origin?”

They discussed it among themselves and said, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will ask, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’”²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin’—we are afraid of the people, for they all hold that John was a prophet.”

So they answered Jesus, “We don’t know.”

Then he said, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things

The Parable of the Two Sons Matthew 21:28-32

“What do you think? There was a man who had two sons. He went to the

first and said, 'Son, go and work today in the vineyard.'

"I will not,' he answered, but later he changed his mind and went.

"Then the father went to the other son and said the same thing. He answered, 'I will, sir,' but he did not go.

"Which of the two did what his father wanted?"

"The first," they answered.

Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you to show you the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. And even after you saw this, you did not repent and believe him.

The Sermon: Fake Promise Keepers. Rev. Jesus Laguerra

Hymn Response to Message: "Trust and Obey" Brown Book Page 454

**When we walk with the Lord, In the light of His Word, What a glory
He sheds on our way! While we do His good will, He abides with us
still, And with all who will trust and obey.**

***Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way To be happy in
Jesus, but to trust and obey.***

**Not a shadow can rise, Not a cloud in the skies, But His smile quickly
drives it away; Not a doubt or a fear, Not a sigh or a tear, Can remain
when we trust and obey.**

***Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way To be happy in
Jesus, but to trust and obey.***

**Not a burden we bear, Not a sorrow we share, But our toil He doth
richly repay; Not a grief or a loss, Not a frown or a cross, But is blest if
we trust and obey.**

***Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way To be happy in
Jesus, but to trust and obey.***

**Then in fellowship sweet, We will sit at His feet, Or we'll walk by His
side in the way; What He says we will do, Where He sends we will go,
Never fear, only trust and obey.**

***Refrain: Trust and obey, for there's no other way To be happy in
Jesus, but to trust and obey.***

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: "The Longer I Serve Him" The Celebration Hymnal Page 520

**Since I started for the Kingdom, Since my life He controls, Since
I gave my heart to Jesus, The longer I serve Him. the sweeter
He grows.**

***Refrain: The longer I serve Him, the sweeter He grows. The
more that I love Him, more love He bestows. Each day is like
heaven, my heart overflows. The longer I serve Him, the
sweeter He grows.***

**Every need He is supplying: Plenteous grace He bestows. Every
day my way gets brighter; The longer I serve Him, the sweeter
He grows.**

***Refrain: The longer I serve Him, the sweeter He grows. The
more that I love Him, more love He bestows. Each day is like
heaven, my heart overflows. The longer I serve Him, the
sweeter He grows.***

Benediction

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

Postlude

**Next Sunday, October 6, 2026, we will be celebrating World
Wide Communion. Please join us with Pastor Patricia Houser
in part taking in the Lord's Supper. We will have a Fellowship**

Hour after the service.

Pastors and Co - Leaders for October, 2026

October 4, 2026 - Pastor Patricia Houser/Sister Liz Reres

**October 11, 2026 - Sister Susan Attzs-Mendoza/Sister
Normalee Mallawaarachchi**

October 18, 2026 - Bishop Chris Giesler/Sister Donna Ziegeler

**October 25, 2026 - Sister Susan Attzs-Mendoza/Sister
Charlott Bramwell**

**UPCOMING EVENT!! SAVE THE DATE Fundraiser for
GREAT KILLS MORAVIAN CHURCH**

Thursday, October 22, 2026

At: Canlon's Restaurant

[1825 North Railroad Avenue](#) (Oakwood Train Station) More information
will be following on a Flyer.

Moravian Day of Service-Hygiene Bag Drive The Board of Elders
invites our congregation to collect items for Hygiene Bags to support guests
attending the Vanderbilt Community Dinners on October 17.

Collections Dates: Sept 27-Oct 11 during Fellowship Hours

We will collect individual items, pre-packed bags, or monetary
donations.

Items needed: 1 washcloth, finger nail or toenail clippers, 1 bath size
bar of soap, toothbrush, travel size deodorant stick, travel size lotion,
travel size shampoo, travel size toothpaste, 1 box of adhesive
bandages, 1 tube of A&D ointments, 1 sturdy comb/wide-tooth comb.

***Thank you for supporting this outreach project.
GKMC Board of Elders***