

**October 18, 2026 - Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Prayer Day for Peace with Justice and Freedom
Worship Aid for Great Kills Moravian Church**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/352704864?pwd=V28wNGtRdXFESDBzRW9OSWdaQTZGZz09>
**Call in number: 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 352 704 864
Password: 401272**

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

Watchword for the Week: Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Psalm 96:2

(Standing)

Call To Worship: Based on Psalm 96: 1-9

L: O Sing to the Lord a new song; Sing to the Lord, all the earth

A: Sing to the Lord, bless his name.

L: Proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. Declare his glory among the nations

A: For the Lord is great and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.

L: Splendor and majesty are before him;

A: Strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

All: Let's worship together the Lord in the splendor of his holiness!

(Please continue to stand if able.)

Gathering Hymn: "Come, Let us All with Gladness Raise" MBW Page 519 v 1,4,5

Come, let us all with gladness raise a joyous song of thanks and praise to God who rules the heav'nly host, God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Father in heav'n, fulfill your word; grant us the Spirit of our Lord, that through your truth, which cannot fail, we may o'er ev'ry ill prevail.

And in your love may we abide, estranged from none by wrath or pride, among ourselves at unity and with all else in charity.

(Please remain standing if comfortable to do so)

Liturgy: Peace and Justice MBW Page 148

How should we come before the Holy One and bow before God on high?

God has shown what is good and what is required: to do justice, to show constant love, and to walk humbly with our God.

Hymn:

HYMN TO JOY

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good;

For your steadfast love endures forever!

Who can utter your mighty works, or show forth all your praise?

Blessed are they who observe justice, who do righteousness at all times.

Is not this the kind of worship that pleases me, says our God: to undo the bonds of injustice, to let the oppressed go free and break every yoke, to share bread with the hungry and shelter the homeless poor, to clothe the naked and not turn from your own people? I was hungry when you fed me, thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, sick or in prison and you visited me.

When did we see you hungry and feed you, thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, naked and clothe you, sick or in prison and visit you?

Truly, I say to you, when you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me.

(Sitting)

Hymn:

BAHNSON

“Come now, you bless___ed; eat at my ta___ble,” Christ Jesus said to the righteous above. “When I was hun___gry, thirsty and home___less, sick and in prison you showed me your love.”

Christ, when we see___ you out on life’s high___ ways, looking to us in the faces of need, then may we know___ you, welcome and show___ you love that is faithful in word and In deed.

If you do away with the yoke, the clenched fist, the wicked word; if you give your bread to the hungry and relief to the oppressed, then your light will rise like the dawn; your goodness will go before you and the glory of God behind you.

God has shown us what is good and what is required: to do justice, to show constant love, and to walk humbly with our God.

As we consider these things, let us confess our sins in silence.

Silent Confession

The peace of Christ be with you;

And also with you.

Hymn:

QUEBEC

Give me your courage, Lord, to speak when-ev-er strong op-press the weak. Should I myself as vic-tim live, rememb’ring you, may I forgive.

Blessed are the poor in spirit,

For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn,

For they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek,

For they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness,

For they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful,

For they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart,

For they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers,

For they will be called children of God.

Jesus said: You have heard it said, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgment." But I say to you that if you are angry with your neighbor, you will be liable to judgment.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

You have heard it said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But I say to you: Do not resist an evildoer. But if anyone strikes you on the right cheek, turn the other also.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God

You have heard it said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy."
But I say to you: Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Hymn:

PERFECT LOVE

Follow with rev-'rent steps the great example of him whose holy work was doing good; so shall the wide earth seem our Father's temple, each loving life a psalm of gratitude.

Praise God, all you nations,

Praise God, all you people!

Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help. There will be One who will rule with integrity and govern with justice: One who will be like a shelter from the wind and a place to hide from the storm; One who will be like streams flowing in a desert, like a shadow of a giant rock in a barren land; One whose eyes and ears will open to the needs of the people.

Our God says:

Here is my servant, whom I strengthen, and one I have chosen, with whom I am pleased.

I have filled him with my Spirit, and he will bring justice to every nation.

He will not lose hope or courage; he will establish justice on the earth.

He will teach us what he wants us to do;

We will walk in the paths he has chosen.

He will settle disputes among the nations; he will arbitrate for many peoples.

We will beat our swords into plowshares and our spears into pruning hooks.

Nation will not lift up sword against nation; neither will they learn war anymore;

We will live in peace, and no one will make us afraid.

Justice will roll down like waters,

And righteousness like an everflowing stream.

And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness will be quietness and trust forever. And we will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

We will live in peace, and no one will make us afraid.

(Standing)

God has shown us what is good and what is required:

To do justice, to show constant love, and to walk humbly with our God.

Hymn:

SARUM

**Peacemakers! Blessed by Christ's inviting word, children of God,
let ev'ry-where be heard the sounds of peace and justice not
deferred. Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu**

(Sitting)

Offering Our Gifts To God

Offertory

(Please stand if able)

Doxology: “Now Thank We All Our God” MBW Page 533 v. 1

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices, who
wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices; who,
from our mother’s arms, has blessed us on our way with
countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

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

**Gracious and loving God, we bring before you these offerings as
tokens of our gratitude for your boundless grace and generosity.
We thank you for blessing our lives with your countless gifts of
love and for keeping us faithfully in your care. Bless these gifts
and the hearts of those who give, whether through time, talent,
or treasure. Multiply them to support the work of your church,
to serve those in need, and to spread your peace and love in our
community and world. May all that we do honor you and reflect
your loving kindness. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

(Sitting)

God’s Words for us Today:

1st Scripture Reading: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Pew Bible Page 1237

Paul, Silas and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ:

Grace and peace to you.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians’ Faith

We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our
prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work
produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance
inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

For we know, brothers and sisters loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake. You became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you welcomed the message in the midst of severe suffering with the joy given by the Holy Spirit. And so you became a model to all the believers in Macedonia and Achaia. The Lord's message rang out from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia—your faith in God has become known everywhere. Therefore we do not need to say anything about it, for they themselves report what kind of reception you gave us. They tell how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the coming wrath.

The Gospel Reading: Matthew 22:15-22 Pew Bible Page 1033

Paying Taxes to Caesar

Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. "Teacher," they said, "we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren't swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay taxes to Caesar or not?"

But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, "You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? Show me the coin used for paying the tax." They brought him a denarius, and he asked them, "Whose image is this? And whose inscription?"

"Caesar's," they replied.

Then he said to them, "Give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and to God what is God's."

When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

The Message: "God's Image Is Love" Pastor Chris Giesler

Hymn of Response to the Message: "Joining Our Voices" MBW Page 535

**Joining our voices, all in God's praises, the church rejoices in
these new days; thanks for this hour, with all its chal-lenge,
thanks for God's power with us always.**

**From ev'ry nation, you call your people; in our salvation you
make us one; sister and brother, joined in the Spirit; loving each
other in the one Son.**

**Make us more giving, make us more open, fill us for living each
day with love; pour out your Spirit, strengthen our witness, till
earth in-herit heaven above.**

**Father, we praise you; Jesus, we love you; Spirit we thank you,
for these new days; help us to know, Lord; help us to grow, Lord;
help us to sow Lord, your love always.**

Prayers of The People

The 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 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: "God of All, Whose Love Surrounds Us" MBW Page 619 (Tune 790)

**God of all, whose love surrounds us, praise we bring you joyfully,
one in heart and one in purpose, one in Christian love to be.
Lord, awake us to the vision of a world redeemed and free, of a
world redeemed and free!!**

**You have led us by your Spirit to accept your kingdom's goal.
Hand in hand with joy advancing, we are one in heart and soul,
filled by you with one great passion: that the world may be made
whole, that the world may be made whole.**

**Grant us, in the mind's maturing, your own guidance on our way.
Purge our hearts from hate and envy; quench the pride that may**

**hold sway; quicken us with power abundant for the work we face
today, for the work we face today.**

**Let us then our service render witnessing your love for all,
toiling with unceasing fervor, swift to venture at your call. Make
us in your strength victorious with our Christ, the Lord of all,
with our Christ, the Lord of all.**

Musical Response: In the name of Jesus, Amen

Postlude

**Next Sunday, October 25, 2026, we will welcome Sister Susan
Attzs-Mendoza back in the pulpit. We will have a Fellowship
Hour following the service. We look forward to seeing you all
here.**

Pastors and Co - Leaders for October, 2026

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