

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 20, 2026

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and

...hope does not
disappoint us,

ROMANS 5:5, NRSU

because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. Romans 5:1-9, NRSU

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ashley Armstrong

PRELUDE

"Sovereign God, Great King of Kings"
Chancel Bells

arr. Allured

***SONG**

"In Christ Alone"

Insert

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: We come together in the sure knowledge:

All: God does not pass us by.

Leader: We gather to worship knowing this truth:

All: God fulfills promises.

Leader: Even when we cannot master belief:

All: God is faithful to us.

***PASSING THE PEACE**

The Peace of the Lord be with you! **People: And also with you.**

***SONG**

"Amazing Grace"

#280

CALL TO CONFESSION & **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of our salvation, incline your ear to us. You have given us power: power to heal, to bring hope, to comfort, to restore. But we ignore that power, choosing to live our own lives. At worst, we abuse that power, storing up riches for ourselves without an eye for the needs of others. Forgive us. Remind us of our call to proclaim your good news, and to welcome each other as we would welcome you.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Rev. Kathy Nealand

***GRATEFUL RESPONSE**

Jesus loves me this I know. For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to him belong, they are weak, but He is strong. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me. Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Jeannette Armstrong

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

THE WORD

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 5:1-12, 18-19

Leader: And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Rev. Kathy Nealand

“Unlocking the Goodness of God”

THANKSGIVING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERING MUSIC *“The Lord’s My Shepherd with Handels ‘Largo’* arr. Berry

***OFFERING RESPONSE**

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE CONGREGATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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. Amen

SENDING

***SONG**

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

#379

***CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

“Postlude on Darwall’s 148th” arr. R.A. Williamson

BOLD TEXT – All participate

* - Stand if you are able

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First Presbyterian Church of Mount Clemens invites you to

“Come as a guest, leave as family.”

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