

**The First Church of Christ in Marblehead  
Old North Church, United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**September 29, 2024 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**

**10:00am**

**GATHERING**

PRELUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

WELCOME AND CONCERNS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

One: Friends, we know what God desires of us:

**All: That we do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with God.**

One: We gather this morning to remind each other about that,

**All: To remember that now is always the right time to do these things.**

One: So with thanks in our hearts, let us worship God.

\* HYMN

*Awake, Awake to Love and Work*

#259

**CENTERING**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Rev. Christine Hribar

**We shall fill this sanctuary, O God, with words as we worship. Let them not substitute for honest acts of faith lived out in daily living. Make us doers of the Word and not speakers only. Take what we say and turn them into deeds of love and mercy. Transform our words into a living testimony to your Word, which become flesh in service to humanity.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

**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 debts as we forgive our debtors, 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.**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: Loving God, we confess that we have not loved you or our neighbor as we should. We have often neglected opportunities for good; sometimes we have done actual harm. Our consciences accuse us over trifles, but let us blithely ignore your weightier demands. We know that a mere apology will not do.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

One: We resolve to turn from the brokenness we know. We ask you to show us the brokenness we do not recognize.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

One: We resolve to forgive any who have wronged us; and to seek reconciliation with any from whom we are estranged.  
We come before you asking for forgiveness and your help.

## SILENT PRAYER

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

People of God, there is nothing, absolutely nothing that can separate you from the love of God in Christ. Trust in God's love and promises and begin your life anew. Amen.

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (please join in singing)

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit One,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end, Amen, Amen.**

### MOMENTS WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Christine Hribar

**May you know that you belong here and can always come home.  
May you grow, learn, and question.  
May you feel the love of God wherever you go.**

*Children will now go to Sunday school;  
their families can meet them in the classroom when the service is over.*

\* HYMN

*Community of Christ*

#502

## LISTENING

### FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 24:17-22     Read by Rebecca Ehrhardt

Do not deprive the foreigner living among you of justice, or the orphan either; nor take the cloak of the widow or widower as collateral. Do not forget that you were slaves in Egypt, and YHWH, your God, redeemed you from that place. So it is that I command you to do these things.

When you are harvesting in your field and overlook a sheaf of grain, do not go back for it afterward. Leave it for the foreigner, the orphan, or the widowed, so that YHWH, your God, may bless you in all the work that you do. When you beat the olives from your trees, do not go over the branches a second time. Leave what remains to the foreigner, the orphan, or the widowed. When you harvest grapes in your vineyard, do not go over the vines a second time. Leave what remains for the foreigner, the orphan, or the widowed. Remember that once you were slaves in Egypt, and this is why I command you to do this.

### SECOND READING

Acts 6:1-7

Read by Mark Roberge

In those days, as the number of disciples grew, a dispute arose between the Hellenistic Jews and those who spoke Hebrew, that the Greek-speaking widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. The Twelve assembled the community of disciples and said, “It’s not right for us to neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Look around among your numbers for seven people who are acknowledged to be deeply spiritual and prudent, and we will appoint them to this task. This will permit us to concentrate on prayer and the ministry of the word.”

The proposal was unanimously accepted by the community. They selected Stephen, full of faith and the Holy Spirit; Philip; Prochorus; Nicanor; Timon; Parmenas; and Nicolaus of Antioch, who had been a convert to Judaism. They were presented to the apostles, who prayed over them and laid hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread, while at the same time the number of disciples in Jerusalem increased enormously, and a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

### ANTHEM

*Cantate Domino*  
Senior Choir

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

### SERMON

“Enough To Go Around”

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

### PASTORAL PRAYER

## RESPONDING

MISSION MOMENT

Sara Stanley  
Executive Director of HAWC

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

*The Time for Turning*  
Senior Choir

Craig Courtney

\* DOXOLOGY: #46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHORAL RESPONSE

## SENDING

\* HYMN

*God of Grace and God of Glory*

#477

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE

*Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name*

#334 verse 4

**Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;  
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace. Amen.**

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*