

Welcome! We are glad you are here. Please share your joys/concerns by filling out a prayer request and placing it in the prayer basket in the back of the sanctuary. For online worshippers, please use Zoom Chat or Facebook Comments. Prayer requests will be included in the Sunday prayer email unless marked for the Pastor alone. Financial offerings can be placed in the offering box at the back of the sanctuary. Restrooms are near the kitchen, to the left as you exit the Sanctuary. Where you see "please rise" – please do so in body and/or spirit.



Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church

The mission of Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church is to be in partnership with God to transform ourselves, our communities, and our world.

Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo

Service for the Lord's Day ~ September 13, 2026

The Season of Pentecost ~ Ordinary Time 24A

Welcome The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle & A Time of Silence

Prelude

Responsive Call to Worship

We come to worship God in our need,
bringing with us the needs of the world.
We come to God, who comes to us in Jesus,
and who knows by experience what human life is like.
We come with our faith and with our doubts,
we come with our hopes and with our fears.
O God, who created us in love,
create us anew in love as we worship You. Amen.

Hymn of Praise GTG 445 *(please rise)*

God, How Can We Forgive

Call to Reconciliation *The psalmist tells us that when we turn to God in our hearts, God speaks peace to the faithful. As we turn to God in true confession, we trust in God, whose shalom makes us whole. Please join me as we pray, saying,*

Unison Prayer of Confession

Loving God, You are Sovereign over all our days. When the winds of faith blow strong and our spirits are invigorated, You are with us. When the burdens of life seem oppressive as hot humid air and our spirits become listless, You are still present. When a turbulence of confusion or pain storms within us, You are there. Forgive us when we neglect to acknowledge or to rely upon Your steadfast love. Our excuses are many. Sometimes we do not want to see You (or be seen by You). At other times we try stubbornly to do without You. Sometimes we lock You in the past as if Your best efforts were concluded long ago. At other times we put You off until tomorrow. Great God, forgive us these sins and the ones we now confess silently... A time of silence is kept.

Assurance Of Pardon

Our God sees all, knows all, forgives all, restores all through our Lord Jesus Christ. May the grace we receive be reflected in what we say and what we do enabling those around us to glimpse the life of Jesus Christ our Lord whom we seek to follow. Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel,
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Hymn 447 GTG (*Please rise*)

We Are Forgiven

**We Are forgiven. We Are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We Are forgiven. We Are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.**

Prayer for Illumination (*unison*)

**Eternal God, in the reading of the scripture, may your Word be heard;
In the meditation of our hearts, may your Word be known;
And in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.**

First Lesson

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Come Holy Spirit (silence is kept). This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Responsive Psalm

Psalm 103:1-2, 8-13, 1-2

¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits.
⁸ The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹ He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
¹⁰ He does not deal with us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
¹¹ For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
¹² as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
¹³ As a father has compassion for his children,
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
¹ Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.
² Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 18:15-20

Come Holy Spirit (silence is kept). This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

How to Measure Sin

Affirmation of Faith

The Confession of 1967, 9.19 & 9.22

The Spirit brings God's forgiveness to the people, moves them to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ. The new life finds its direction in the life of Jesus, his deeds and words, his struggles against temptation, his compassion, his anger, and his willingness to suffer death. The teaching of apostles and prophets guides [us] in living this life, and the Christian community nurtures and equips [us] for their ministries.

Hymn of Response GTG 177 (*Please rise*)

I Will Come to You

Sharing Our Joys & Concerns

*We resolve to pray for each other, our community and our world at 10:10 am or pm –
10:10 being the time we worship on the Lord's Day. Join in whenever you can remember to do so.*

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer *(Words to the Lord's Prayer found on page 35 in the hymnal, GTG)*

Invitation to a Time of Offering and Dedication

God of Life, you have forgiven us and set us free. We respond with our whole lives, to follow your lead in forgiving others. May these gifts we offer of our time, talent and treasure extend your beloved community until all your children, everywhere; know they are forgiven and free. We pray in Christ's name. Amen.

Hymn of Sending *(Please rise)* *O God in Whom All Life Begins*

*Carl P. Daw Jr., 1990
#308 GTG Hymnal*

**O God in whom all life begins, who births the seed to fruit,
bestow your blessing on our lives; here let your love find root.
Bring forth in us the Spirit's gifts of patience, joy, and peace;
deliver us from numbing fear, and grant our faith increase.**

**Unite in mutual ministry our minds and hands and hearts
that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace imparts.
So let our varied gifts combine to glorify your Name
that in all things by word and deed we may your love proclaim.**

**Through tears and laughter, grief and joy, enlarge our trust and care;
so bind us in community that we may risk and dare.
Be with us when we gather here to worship, sing, and pray;
then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.**

Charge to the Congregation & Benediction

God is Good—All the Time. All the Time—God is Good.

Postlude

Please stay for coffee and let us get to know one another.

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