



CARMICHAEL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

September 13, 2026

Livestream & In-Person

10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Ivan N. Herman

Click [HERE](#) to register your attendance

MOMENT FOR CPC

Truth Matters Workshop

Kathy Lewis

* GREETING ONE ANOTHER

INTROIT

"We Come, O Lord, This Day"

Michael Bedford

Sanctuary Choir & Handbell Ensemble

We come, O Lord, this day, we lift our hearts to pray;

We bring our songs of grateful praise, our psalms of joy to you we raise; we worship you in every way.

We come, O Lord, this day, we bow our heads to pray;

Enable us to do your will, make clear our goals and guide us still, that we may serve you day by day.

We come, O Lord, this day, we bow our heads to pray;

Forgive us when we fail to do an act of love that pleases you, forgive us when we turn away.

We come, O Lord, this day, we lift our hearts to pray;

We give our thanks to you above, we share with all your tender love, we worship you in every way.

* CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 103:1-4)

Linda Sweetman

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me.

People: Bless God's holy name.

Leader: God forgives. God heals. God transforms with steadfast love.

People: Bless God's holy name.

Now I won't deny the worst you could say about me
But I'm not defined by mistakes that I've made
Because God says of me

I am not who I was, I'm being remade
I am new, I am new
I'm chosen and holy and I'm dearly loved
I am new, I am new

Who I thought I was and who I thought I had to be
I had to give them both up because neither
Were willing to ever believe

I am not who I was, I'm being remade
I am new, I am new
I'm chosen and holy and I'm dearly loved
I am new, I am new

Too long have I lived in the shadow of shame
Believing that there was no way I could change
But the one who is making everything new
Doesn't see me the way that I do
He doesn't see me the way that I do

I am not who I was, I'm being remade
I am new, I am new
Dead to my sin, I'm coming alive
I am new, I am new

Forgiven, beloved, hidden in Christ
Made in the image of the Giver of Life
Righteous and holy, reborn and remade,
Accepted and worthy, this is our new name

Forgiven, beloved, hidden in Christ
Made in the image of the Giver of Life
Righteous and holy, reborn and remade,
Accepted and worthy, this is our new name

This is who we are now

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Linda Sweetman

Leader: Before we can hear God's truth spoken in love, we must free ourselves from all that obstructs us from honestly acknowledging our wrongdoing. Let us examine our hearts and confess our sins to God.

All: **Nurturing God, like a hen gathers her brood under her wings, you desire to gather your children. But division and disagreement plague us. We cling to rigid certainties, approach each other in arrogance, and fail to listen. We walk away from conflict rather than working through it. Forgive us, Holy God. Help us grow in faith, mature in relationship, and be transformed through your steadfast love.**

silence

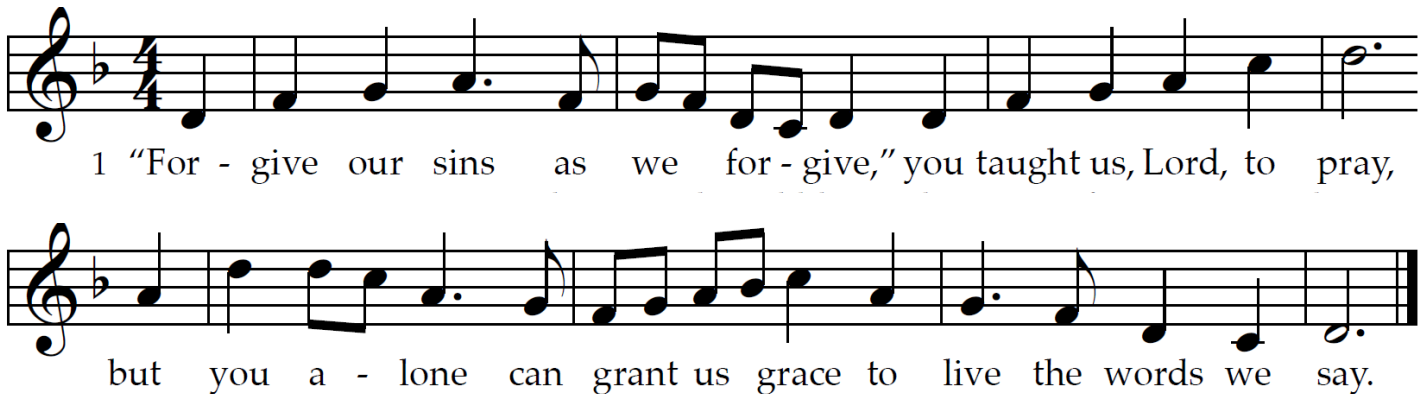
Leader: The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.

People: **In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, redeemed and restored to God's path of righteousness.**

* RESPONSE OF THE PEOPLE

"Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive"

No. 444
Glory to God



1 "For - give our sins as we for - give," you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you a - lone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

"How Can I Keep from Singing?"

Sanctuary Choir

Rikki Pratt, soloist

My life flows on in endless song, how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm, how can I keep from singing?
How can I keep from singing?

What, though the tempest around me roars, I know the truth it liveth
What, though the darkness around me close, songs in the night it giveth.

I hear the real, though far off hymn that hails a new creation
It sounds an echo in my soul, above earth's lamentation.

My life flows on in endless song, how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm, how can I keep from singing?
How can I keep from singing?

To the rock I'm clinging. How can I stop singing?
I'm clinging to the Rock now. Hear me singing!

My life flows on in endless song, how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm, how can I keep from singing?

My life flows on in endless song, how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm, how can I keep from singing?
How can I keep from singing? How can I keep from singing?

TIME FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

(All children are invited to the front of the church. Afterwards, children 4 years old through 5th grade are invited to Sunday School.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

²³ "For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, 'Pay what you owe.' ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

* SONG

"Drops in the Ocean"

Jason Ingram, Jon Steingard,
and Matt Brownleewe

I want you as you are, not as you ought to be.
Won't you lay down your guard and come to Me.
The shame that grips you now is crippling.
It breaks My heart to see you suffering.
'Cause I am for you; I'm not against you.

If you want to know how far My love can go,
Just how deep, just how wide,
If you want to see how much you mean to Me
Look at My hands, look at My side.
If you could count the times I'd say you are forgiven
It's more than the drops in the ocean.

Don't think you need to settle for a substitute
When I'm the only love that changes you.
And I am for you; I'm not against you.
And I am for you; I'm not against you.

If you want to know how far My love can go,
Just how deep, just how wide,
If you want to see how much you mean to Me
Look at My hands, look at My side.
If you could count the times I'd say you are forgiven
It's more than the drops in the ocean.

Open your heart, it's time that we start again
Open your heart, it's time that we start again

If you want to know how far My love can go,
Just how deep, just how wide,
If you want to see how much you mean to Me
Look at My hands, look at My side.
If you could count the times I'd say you are forgiven
It's more than the drops in the ocean.

And I am for you, I'm not against you
And I am for you, I'm not against you

OFFERTORY

“He Shall Feed His Flock” from Messiah

George Frideric Handel

Rikki Pratt

He shall feed His flock like a shepherd: and He shall gather the lambs with His arm,
And carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.
Come unto Him, all ye that labor, come unto Him all ye that are heavy laden, and He will give you rest.
Take His yoke upon you and learn of Him; for He is meek and lowly of heart:
And ye shall find rest unto your souls.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: Loving God, as swiftly as summer ripens and yields to fall, our schedules fill. And as our days crowd with tasks, the quiet to contemplate the eternal seems to vanish. But now, we pause. We still ourselves, intent to enter your presence, to open our minds and hearts as the season opens its arms to autumn. We inhale the oxygen you supply; we note the steady pulse within us. We give thanks for breath, for heartbeat, for life's return with each silent moment. And in this hush, we gather our petitions and lift them to you.

Your steadfast love surrounds us, God — in suffering, in sorrow, in the uncertainty of what lies ahead. The devastation of this world is vast, too vast to hold in a single prayer. And yet we bring it to you. We ask you to walk beside those still clearing the wreckage of disaster, to fortify those who are ground down beneath the heel of greed and power, to reach into and soften the hearts of those who would choose war, to lay your hands upon the wounded, the sick, the grieving.

Faithful God, your faithfulness outlasts our fear. In your hands rest our children, our neighbors, this fragile creation — and we find, in that knowledge, something that feels like rest. You are the author of our laughter, the reason a table full of friends and family can nourish us. Even now, when the world presses in, you slip joy into the margins: a song, a game, a moment of delight we did not expect. Turn our eyes, Holy God — not away from what is broken, but toward what your hands are holding and healing.

We return, O God, to the good news that holds us — the promise made flesh in Jesus our Christ, who walked this same chaotic world and loved it anyway. May we follow where he led. May we love as he loved. We close now, praying as he taught us:

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

If you would like to privately share a concern, thanksgiving, or request for healing, please come to the Stephen Ministry banner on the east wall of the Sanctuary immediately following the service for individual prayer with a Stephen Minister.



1 Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
 2 Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3 Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4 Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,



teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for jus - tice and for bread,



Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on:



we are our - selves ac - cept - ed, and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them, or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness, and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us; make us one!

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

* POSTLUDE

"Chaconne"

Dietrich Buxtehude

* Please rise in body or in spirit.

Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott, © *Presbyterian Outlook*, 2026.

All music used in this program is copyrighted. Used by permission CCLI #746473.

Music reprinted/streamed with permission under One License #740355-A. All rights reserved.

Audio/Video: Noor Bitar and Bruce MacLean

Music Director: Keith Atwater

Organist: Heidi Van Regenmorter

Piano: Gabe Bisho

Drums: Will Condrey

Bass Guitar: Merlyn Van Regenmorter

Vocals: Karen Gray, Beth Lindley, and Julie Ueltzen

