

Sunday, September 1, 2024
15th Sunday after Pentecost
10: 30AM

DEDICATION AND STEWARDSHIP

Change My Heart, O God 695

Cámbiame, Señor 항상진실케

Refrain / Estribillo / 후렴

Change my heart, O God; make it ev - er true.
Cám - bia - me, Se - ñor, con tu gran po - der.
항 상 진 실 케 내 맘 바 꾸 사

Change my heart, O God; may I be like you.
Haz - me co - mo tú, tu - yo quie - ro ser.
주 님 의 모 습 님 게 하 소 서

You are the Pot - ter; I am the clay.
Tú el al - fa - re - ro, yo el ba - rro soy.
주 는 토 기 장 이 나 는 진 흙

Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.
Só - lo a tú j - ma - gen, quie - ro siem - pre ser.
날 빛 으 소 서 기 도 하 오 너

The central image of the potter and the clay in this text comes from Isaiah 64:8 (and there is a similar reference in Jeremiah 18:1-6), while the petition for a changed heart is similar to Psalm 51:10. Such readiness to do God's will is a significant feature of the spiritual life.

TEXT: English and Spanish, Eddie Espinosa, 1982;
Korean trans., The United Methodist Korean Hymnal Committee, 2001
MUSIC: Eddie Espinosa, 1982
Text and Music © 1982 Mercu/Vineyard Publishing (admin. in North America Music Services)

CHANGE MY HEART
Irregular



And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.
Ezekiel 36:26

First Presbyterian Church of Ocean City
Pastor Debbie Johnson

"You've Gotta Have Heart"

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Office Hours: 9:00 – 12:00 Noon
Tuesday - Wednesday - Thursday

Order of Worship: September 1, 2024

15th Sunday after Pentecost

We Prepare Our Hearts and Minds: "No beauty shines brighter than that of a good heart." *Shanina Shaik*

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship:

Jackie Bates

God has given us this day for praise!

Praise be to God for this most generous gift!

God has given his Son to us that we might learn ways of peace and mercy.

Let the words of God's own Son, Jesus, enter our hearts and transform our lives!

Come, let us worship this great God of abundant mercy and love!

Let our songs, our words, and our thoughts reflect God's healing and restoring love. Amen.

Choral Introit: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

* Hymn: "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" # 6

* *Passing the Peace - Please turn to your neighbor and pass the peace of Christ*

Sharing our Concerns, Joys, and Affirmations

Call to Confession:

If it was easy to follow Jesus, we would not need to ask for forgiveness. But it is tough - tough to say 'yes,' tough to be graceful, tough to be loving. Yet whatever we do, God loves us enough to forgive us and to feed us with the Bread of Life. Let us pray together, saying,

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

God of mercy, you know us so well. We like to think that we can hide from You, but we are just kidding ourselves. You have offered to us new life, characterized by honesty, compassion, joy, and peace. You have invited us into ministries of peace and justice; but we have far too often turned our back on opportunities for service and witness to your transformational love. Forgive us for our stubbornness. Help us to turn around and listen to your words of hope. Remind us again that you require compassion and mercy in all who serve you; that you will guide our steps and our lives. Give us courage to truly be your witnesses in this world. Amen.

Current Prayer Concerns:

Lori Patrick, Diane Ayres, Virginia Miller, Billie Jones, Marie McCallister, Thomas Simpson, Chris Hazard, Kent Mitchell, Hudson Day, Margy Kreppel, Amy Etheridge, Bonnie Hancock, Eric Richardson, Samantha Kilgore, Lydia Frasca, Diane Devanna, Larry (Black) Blackwell, Kathy Smith, Larry Steele, Mark Payne, Beth Miller, Pat and Ben Steele, Joey Martin, Robert Wilkins, Bob & Dee Lebo, David Mumford, and Margie Baugher-Cramer.

We will always seek to lift the prayer concerns from our church family and community. Please let us know if someone is in need of prayer by reaching out to Beth LaBrunda at 862-266-6939. Please also let us know when we can remove someone from our list.

Fellowship Hosts Coming Up:

Sep	8	Nancy Wright & Jan Owens
Sep	15	Dawn Butler & Sue Latour
Sep	22	Vicky Cairns & Peggy Webster
Sep	29	OCEANS CALLING NO FELLOWSHIP
Oct	6	COUNTRY CALLING NO FELLOWSHIP
Oct	13	Karen Eberle & Mabel Rogers
Oct	20	Beth Fisher & Peggy Webster

Calendar, Birthdays ... and more!

Wed	Sept 4	Hand Bells Practice	Cancelled	5:00	PM
Wed	Sept 4	Choir Practice		6:00	PM
Fri	Sept 6	Narcotics Anonymous		7:00	PM
Sat	Sept 7	Sligo-by-the-Sea		9:00	AM

Note—Hand Bells Practice will also be cancelled on 9/11.

Birthdays: *Carol Reese (9/1) Andrew Hass (9/2)*

Benjamin Cropper (9/3)

Flowers: **Flowers in the chancel vase are given,**

~ In honor of Ben Cropper and the celebration of his birthday on September 3rd. I am so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. Love, Grammy

~ A basket of flowers is placed in honor of Jacob Todd, our choirmaster and organist and the celebration of his birthday August 29th. God has given Jacob a special talent and we are blessed that he shares his gifts with us.

Assurance of Pardon: (responsive)

Listen and understand - the voice of the Beloved speaks to us, implanting the word of hope, the word of grace, and the word of forgiveness into our hearts.

We listen and understand. Every gift comes from God, especially the gifts of mercy and love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

*** Gloria Patri:** (unison)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end, Amen. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering:

James writes, "Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change." Since God is the source of all generosity, let us generously return our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

Offertory

*** Doxology:** (unison)

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

Prayer of Dedication:

Generous God, we return to you these gifts, not only of our resources, but also of our lives. Sanctify us and use us to work out your purposes in the world. Amen

Choral Anthem: "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

Prayer for Illumination: (unison)

Gracious God, we see as in a mirror dimly. Your Spirit offers clarity, wisdom and understanding. Open our eyes, that these many words of Scripture may bear witness to your true Word: Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1st Scripture: Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9 [NRSV]

Elder Mabel Rogers

"So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you. ⁶You must observe them and perform them, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, 'Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!' ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹"But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children's children

2nd Scripture Reading: Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23 [NRSV]

Pastor Debbie Johnson

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, ⁷but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸"You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition."
¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. ²¹For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²²adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.

Passing The Peace

Having been reconciled to God in Jesus Christ, the people are invited to share signs of reconciliation and the peace of Christ. In sharing the peace, we express the reconciliation, unity, and love that come only from God, and we open ourselves to the power of God's love to heal our brokenness and make us agents of that love in the world.

From Book of Common Worship



Chancel vases open for dedications:

 Sept. 8th...one vase

 Sept. 15th.. one vase

 Sept. 22nd...one vase

 Sept..29th... one vase

Pastor Debbie will be starting a new Bible study after Labor Day, which will be meeting on **Thursdays at 11 AM.** at the church. The study will be on the book of Philippians. If you are interested in attending, please sign the sheet on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Deacon's meeting Sunday, September 8th following worship

Pastor Debbie is now in Ocean City from **Sunday through Thursday.** She is always available by texting or calling:
843-568-6480
or via email:
djhj3675@gmail.com

Congregation Financials as of July 31, 2024:

- Year-to-date giving/income (\$93,072.34) from giving; remainder from parking, building use, etc.): \$113,860.76

- Year-to-date disbursements: \$88,371.10

Note: A bookkeeping change was made to charge \$20,166 against Capital Improvement for the new windows installed in the Manse in 2023. Capital Improvement balance now stands at \$89,666.08.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Time with Children & Youth
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Sermon: " You've Gotta Have Heart"
Pastor Debbie Johnson

Minute for Mission Report:
P.W. National Meeting - Carol Reese

* Hymn: "In Remembrance" # 322

Affirmation of Faith: The Nicene Creed (unison)
We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving:

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We give you all thanks and praise, O God,
for there is nothing deceitful or shadowy in you
and every good and perfect gift comes from your hand.....

Words of Institution

Communion of the People

The body of Christ broken for you.

The blood of Christ poured out for you.

Prayer after communion and the Lord's Prayer (unison)

* Hymn: "Change My Heart, O God" (back of bulletin)

Charge

Benediction (Responsive)

Postlude and Response: "Three-Fold Amen"

Liturgy credit: Ministry Matters, the Rev. Ginna Bairby for Presbyterian Outlook, Lectionary Liturgies,

Prayer

God of welcome,
God of the stranger.
We come as strangers.
We come as those who you welcome.
We come as those called to welcome.
Christ, who reached across all lines
Messiah who looked the "other" in the eyes with love.
Challenge us with your radical example of love.
Stretch us to engage the way you engage.
Humble us to receive and be.
Spirit who challenges,
Spirit who connects,
Urge us to compassion,
Break down our resistance,
Strengthen our resolve,
Tear open our hearts,
Mobilize our minds,
Flow through our bodies,
As Your
vessels who will be conduits of
welcome,
compassion,
justice
and
love.
Amen

by David Whyte

<https://annawoofenden.com/2011/10/30/god-of-welcome-god-of-the-stranger/>