



Highland Hills

BAPTIST CHURCH

The Worship of God
The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 15, 2024

The Chiming of the Hour

The Organ Prelude "Brethren, We Have Met to Worship" Wilbur Held

The Call to Worship Kam Cook

We are here to dwell in the company of the one who calls herself Wisdom.

We are here to witness the creativity of the skilled artisan who stood with God during the creation of the universe.

We are here to listen for the voice that offers understanding.

Wisdom calls out to us from the hills and from the cities. She opens the way to clarity of mind and spirit. She points to the way of justice.

Wisdom calls out to all humanity.

She invites us to eat of the feast she has prepared. Let us open ourselves to her guidance and find the courage to be moved.

The Invocation Ethan Brown

The Welcome to Worship Ethan Brown

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

*The Hymn of Praise 549 "Come, We That Love the Lord" FESTAL SONG

A Reading from the Psalms Psalm 1 Mike Fuller

Happy are those
who do not follow the advice of the wicked
or take the path that sinners tread
or sit in the seat of scoffers,
but their delight is in the law of the Lord,
and on his law they meditate day and night.

They are like trees
planted by streams of water,
which yield their fruit in its season,
and their leaves do not wither.
In all that they do, they prosper.

The wicked are not so
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.
Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous,
for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked will perish.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Children's Message Ben Browne

Stories from Creation Larry Brumley

The Moment of Silence Ethan Brown

"To meet and know God people must therefore begin with a deep commitment to serve life as they meet it because this is where God is, at the heart of all life's intersections."

-Norman Wirzba, *Food and Faith: A Theology of Eating*

*The Hymn of Offering 573 "It Is Well with My Soul" VILLE DU HAVRE

*The Prayer of Giving Jeff Browne

The Offertory "Prelude from Cello Suite #2 in D-Minor" J.S. Bach

Manou Chakravorty, cello

A Reading from the Old Testament

Proverbs 31:10-31

Caitlin Childers Brown

A woman of strength who can find?
 She is far more precious than
 jewels.
 The heart of her husband trusts in
 her, and he will have no lack of
 gain.
 She does him good and not harm
 all the days of her life.
 She seeks wool and flax and works
 with willing hands.
 She is like the ships of the
 merchant; she brings her food
 from far away.
 She rises while it is still night and
 provides food for her household
 and tasks for her female servants.
 She considers a field and buys it;
 with the fruit of her hands she
 plants a vineyard.
 She girds herself with strength and
 makes her arms strong.

She perceives that her merchandise
 is profitable. Her lamp does not
 go out at night.
 She puts her hands to the distaff,
 and her hands hold the spindle.
 She opens her hand to the poor
 and reaches out her hands to the
 needy.
 She is not afraid for her household
 when it snows, for all her
 household are clothed in crimson.
 She makes herself coverings; her
 clothing is fine linen and purple.
 Her husband is known in the city
 gates, taking his seat among the
 elders of the land.
 She makes the linen garments
 and sells them; she supplies the
 merchant with sashes.
 Strength and dignity are her
 clothing, and she laughs at the
 time to come.

She opens her mouth with wisdom,
 and the teaching of kindness is
 on her tongue.
 She looks well to the ways of her
 household and does not eat the
 bread of idleness.
 Her children rise up and call her
 happy; her husband, too, and he
 praises her:
 "Many women have done excellently,
 but you surpass them all."
 Charm is deceitful and beauty is
 vain, but a woman who fears the
 Lord is to be praised. Give her a
 share in the fruit of her hands,
 and let her works praise her in
 the city gates.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

"For Everyone Born"

Brian Mann, arr. Tom Trenney

The Message

Ecumenism: The Family of God in Our Common Home

Caitlin Childers Brown

*The Hymn of Response 373

"Give Thanks"

GIVE THANKS

The Opportunities for Service

Ethan Brown

The Organ Postlude

"Festive March"

John Cramer

The Benediction

Caitlin Childers Brown

Go forth confident in the hope in which you have been saved:
 praise God in all creation:
 follow Christ through whom all things are made:
 in the power of the Spirit become a beacon of hope to the world:
 and the blessing of the Creator God,
 the Eternal Father, the Risen Son and the promised Holy Spirit
 bless you that you might be a blessing to others today and always. Amen.