

*16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost*

10:00 AM

September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023

<sup>2</sup> *“The Lord is my strength and my defense; he has become my salvation. He is my God, and I will praise him, my father’s God, and I will exalt him.”* Exodus 15:2

**PRELUDE**

Debbe Picerno

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: We gather today to worship the One who created us,

**P: The One who calls us,**

L: The One who equips us,

**P: The One who loves us without end.**

**All: With joyful hearts, let us worship God.**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*HYMNS** “Come Christians, Join to Sing” No. 225  
“10,000 Reasons”

**\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Almighty God, You are exceedingly gracious and merciful. You forgive us and restore us when we turn from our wrongdoing and turn toward You. Yet we are often reluctant to recognize and confess our sins. We run from Your presence, refusing to accept Your word. Lord, let us be more like the repentant Ninevites who cried out mightily to You. Have mercy on us and restore us to right relationship with You. We pray this in Jesus’ name. Amen. (Silent Confession)**

**\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

L: Believe the good news of the Gospel.

**P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

**\*CONFESSION RESPONSE:** “Create in Me a Clean Heart”

**CALL TO OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY**

**\*OFFERING RESPONSE:** “We Give Thee but Thine Own”

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHILDREN’S SERMON**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** Genesis 4:1-8

**ANTHEM** “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace” Choir

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** Matthew 20:1-16

**SERMON** “Envy” Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin

**\*CONFESSION OF FAITH**

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\*HYMN** “They’ll Know We Are Christians” No. 429

**POSTLUDE** Debbe Picerno

**\*Those who are able please stand.**



**Ushers:** Elders  
**Welcome Desk:**  
**Liturgist:** Molly Tarr

**Greeters:** Nancy McCombs  
**Fellowship Hour:** Autumn Moore  
**Child Care:** Sarah Murtha

**THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR**

<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
	<b>12-1:30 PM</b>	<b>Club 35</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>6-8 PM</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>
	<b>1 PM</b>	<b>Quilting</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>7 PM</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Sunday, September 24<sup>th</sup>:</b>	<b>10 AM</b>	<b>Worship</b>
	<b>11 AM</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>
	<b>6-8 PM</b>	<b>Youth Group</b>

**TRUNK OR TREAT-** We are looking for volunteers for Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 PM. We need people to help with setup, cleanup, parking, and in the kitchen. Also those to bring a car and pass out candy! There is a signup sheet located in the Library.

**CLUB 35-** Club 35 will meet today from 12-1:30 PM in the youth room for Sundaes on Sunday! Children in grades third through fifth are welcome to join us for fun.

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY-** A women's bible study entitled "Heaven" by Randy Acorn will begin on Friday, Sept 29th at 1 PM in Room 15. There is a signup sheet in the Library.

**MISSION COMMITTEE-**The mission committee will be packing hygiene kits on Oct 1<sup>st</sup> following worship. Thank you to everyone who has donated supplies. Please sign up in the Library if you would like to help pack. Lunch will be provided.

**COMMUNION PREP CLASS-** Begins today in Parker Hall after worship and will meet Sept 24<sup>th</sup> at 11 AM & Oct 1<sup>st</sup> at 9 AM before worship.

**THANK YOU-** I can't begin to express how grateful I am to have been the choir director at Meridian. I am overwhelmed by the outpouring of love, support, kindness, and generosity that you have shown me over the years, and the retirement luncheon and gifts show even more what a caring church community we have. I am so blessed to have such a wonderful church family. With loving thanks, Vicki

**BLOOD DRIVE-** We will be hosting a blood drive on Friday, October 6th from 12-5 at Meridian Firehall. Please sign up at Redcrossblood.org if you are able to donate.

# Meridian Presbyterian Church

[www.meridianpres.org](http://www.meridianpres.org)

724-482-2630



**September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

**"Envy"**

**Rev. Dr. Stephen Franklin**