

# Mendocino Presbyterian Church

Our Mission is to glorify God in worship, to follow Jesus Christ passionately and to demonstrate God's grace, love and healing empowered by the Holy Spirit.



Upside Down World

ACTS 17:5 ....they became jealous, and with the help of some ruffians in the marketplaces they formed a mob and set the city in an uproar. While they were searching for Paul and Silas to bring them out to the assembly, they attacked Jason's house.<sup>6</sup>When they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some believers before the city authorities, shouting, "These people who have been turning the world upside down have come here also,<sup>7</sup> and Jason has entertained them as guests. They are all acting contrary to the decrees of the emperor, saying that there is another king named Jesus."

**Sunday, July 25, 2021**  
**9th Sunday after Pentecost**

## THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

David Sinclair

CENTERING THOUGHT

*Let nothing disturb you,  
Let nothing frighten you,  
All things are passing away:  
God never changes.  
Patient endurance attains to all things.  
Whoever is God's lacks nothing;  
God alone suffices.*

*Teresa of Avila - 16<sup>th</sup> Century*

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Pastor Bill McGuinness

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Your kingdom O Holy One is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. The LORD is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

**People: The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.**

\*OPENING HYMN 106      *"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!"*

\*CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

Laurel Brunner

**We long O Lord for the mind of Christ Jesus to be formed in us; but we need to go beyond mere longing. Deep heart-soul changes, new visions of purpose, spirit-powered setting aside of the merely natural are required for the fullness of repentance. We acknowledge before you this sabbath morning that**

\*Please stand if you are able.

**your work of transforming our souls must ever continue apace lest we miss too much of the beauty of life given so graciously to us. Come Lord God in your unfailing work of making of us fit citizens of your here now and eternal kingdom.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE     *Glory Be to the Father*

## THE WORD

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Proverbs 2:1-6

Laurel Brunner

<sup>1</sup>My child, if you accept my words and treasure up my commandments within you, <sup>2</sup>making your ear attentive to wisdom and inclining your heart to understanding; <sup>3</sup>if you indeed cry out for insight, and raise your voice for understanding; <sup>4</sup>if you seek it like silver, and search for it as for hidden treasures— <sup>5</sup>then you will understand the fear of the Lord and find the knowledge of God. <sup>6</sup>For the Lord gives wisdom; from his mouth come knowledge and understanding;

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

James 1:2-8

Rev. Dr. Sunny Farley

<sup>2</sup>My brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of any kind, consider it nothing but joy, <sup>3</sup>because you know that the testing of your faith produces endurance; <sup>4</sup>and let endurance have its full effect, so that you may be mature and complete, lacking in nothing. <sup>5</sup>If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given you. <sup>6</sup>But ask in faith, never doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, driven and tossed by the wind; <sup>7,8</sup>for the doubter, being double-minded and unstable in every way, must not expect to receive anything from the Lord.

SERMON

*"Upside Down World"*

Pastor Bill McGuinness

HYMN 464

*May the Mind of Christ, My Savior*

\*Please stand if you are able.

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

(Offering plates upfront or model church in the back to place gifts as you leave worship.)

**\*\* EUCHARIST**

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

Words of Institution

Communion Music      *"Revive Us Again" (see insert)*

Communion

Prayer after Communion

**THE SENDING****\* CHARGE AND BLESSING**

BLESSING SONG

*"The Lord's Prayer"*

POSTLUDE

David Sinclair

WOULD YOU LIKE A COPY EMAILED TO YOU OF "The Negative Feelings List" FROM LAST WEEKS SERMON?

In last week's sermon, Pastor Bill McGuinness, spoke of STOP-ing to name and assess the particular negative feeling that knocked you off kilter (again) in one or more of the great many ways that our bodies/brains (and some subsystems) feel stressed/distressed; and then the brain often transmits false, unhelpful, dysfunctional, or even sinful messages as to how deal with the negative feeling. Bill said that our body/brains are value-neutral so it is our souls rather than than merely brains that need to be in control. As Christians whose souls have been bonded with God's Spirit, we can overcome what comes merely naturally. By God's Spirit, we are not merely natural, but *super-natural* beings! So, let's STOP to name what we are feeling, then LOOK deeply within to acknowledge the negativity of both the feeling and merely natural / habitual responses and then LISTEN for God's course correcting perspective through prayer, good counsel and scriptural principles /direction - all are great inputs in order to respond well. It's always helpful to be aware of the wide range of what we are dealing with, or might come up against in this beautiful but endangered and badly fallen world.

EMAIL: [Office@MendoPres.org](mailto:Office@MendoPres.org) with just Negative Feelings List in the subject line

\*Please stand if you are able.

\*\* Communion Servers: Elder Robert Scott, Deacon Rosalie Scott, Rev. Dr. Sunny Farley, and Pastor Bill McGuinness  
 "Our Sunday services are being video recorded. You can view the recording on the MPC website at: [www.mendopres.org](http://www.mendopres.org) after 5pm on Sunday."