

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FM 94.1

As you enter the sanctuary, please do so reverently. The Prelude is a quiet time to put aside our personal cares and concerns and to prepare ourselves to worship.

September 20, 2026	17th Sunday after Pentecost	11:00 AM
PRELUDE	“There is a Fountain”	arr. Don Hustad
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS		Hannah Bush
CHIMING OF THE HOUR		Cyrus Cocke
INTROIT	“Sweet Rivers of Redeeming Love”	arr. Don Hustad
CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP	“He Has Made Me Glad”	#214

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

- P:

Come, let us worship the Lord, whose mercy is greater than our sin and whose forgiveness knows no limit.
- C:

We come before our gracious God, thankful for the forgiveness He has freely given us.
- P:

Jesus teaches us not to count how many times we should forgive, but to forgive from a heart that has first experienced God’s mercy.
- C:

Lord, soften our hearts and teach us to forgive as we have been forgiven.
- P:

We have been released from a debt we could never repay.
- C:

Let us worship the God who is rich in mercy and abundant in grace.
- P:

Let us worship the Lord with humble and grateful hearts. **Amen**

HYMN	“The Church’s One Foundation”	#401
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* PRAYER OF CONFESSION [UNISON]

Merciful and gracious God, we confess that we have received Your forgiveness while often struggling to forgive others. You have shown us mercy beyond measure, yet we sometimes hold tightly to the offenses committed against us. Forgive us for our bitterness, resentment, anger, and unwillingness to release those who have hurt us. Forgive us when we keep a record of wrongs rather than remembering the great debt You have canceled for us. Break down the walls of unforgiveness in our hearts. Give us the grace to forgive, not because the wrong does not matter, but because Your mercy is greater than our sin. Teach us to extend to others the same compassion, patience, and forgiveness that You have extended to us. In Jesus’ name, Amen. [Silent Prayers] Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI	#813
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ANTHEM:	“At the Feet of My Lord”	David Davenport
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CHILDREN’S LESSON: All children are warmly invited to come forward for a special message.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Micah 7:18-19

Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives the transgression of the remnant of his inheritance? You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. You will again have compassion on us; you will tread our sins underfoot and hurl all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 18:21-35

Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” Jesus answered, “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times. “Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him. Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. “At this the servant fell on his knees before him. ‘Be patient with me,’ he begged, ‘and I will pay back everything.’ The servant’s master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. “But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. ‘Pay back what you owe me!’ he demanded. “His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ “But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. “Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. “This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord **All: Thanks Be to God**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

SERMON	“Is Forgiveness Optional?”	Pastor Bruce Hankee
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SERMON INTERLUDE	“Verso III in F”	Domenico Zipoli
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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH, The Apostles Creed *(Inside front Cover of Hymnbook)*

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. *Amen.*

***HYMN** *“Grace Greater than Our Sin”* **#344**

MORNING PRAYER AND TIME FOR PERSONAL PRAYER

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts and Debtors...)

CHORAL RESPONSE *“Threefold Amen” (563)* *Hebron Choir*

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING and DOXOLOGY** **#815**

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

***HYMN** *“They’ll Know We Are Christians”* **#429**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *“God Be with You”* **#232**

POSTLUDE *“Verso I in F”* *Domenico Zipoli*

**Those who are able may stand*

BOLDFACE indicates words spoken or sung by the congregation

CHURCH STAFF

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SEPTEMBER 20, 2026

17TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*“Be kind and compassionate
to one another, forgiving each
other, just as in Christ
God forgave you.”*

— Ephesians 4:32 (NIV)



Hebron Presbyterian Church

423 Hebron Road, Staunton, VA 24401

MISSION STATEMENT

*As a historic church community we celebrate Jesus Christ
as Lord and Savior, grow in faith through worship,
and serve our congregation and community with love.*