*Mountain Spirit Metropolitan Community Church*

*A spiritual community born out of LGBTQIA+ Appalachia*

*“I praise you for I am fearsomely and wonderfully made.”*

*Ps. 139.14*

**Light of a Clear Blue Morning: A Dolly Parton-Inspired Service**

**October 19th, 2025**

**Prelude** Paul W., musician

**Welcome and Protocol Honoring Home** Rev. Pressley S., liturgist

**All: We bless these mountains in which we gather, and all the animals, plants, and elements for whom this is home;**

**We bless all who have walked this land and called this place home long before us;**

**We bless and honor Congregation Beth Israel for sharing their home with us;**

**And we pray that we will be a blessing in this place.**

**May peace be among us. Amen.**

**Gathering Anthem**  **Light of a Clear Blue Morning** Mountain Spirit Singers

**Invocation** Rev. Pressley S.

**ALL:** **Come Holy Spirit. Come any way you want. Just come. Amen**

**Gathering Song All Are Welcome** Paul W and Christine W, musicians

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,

A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive

Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;

Here the love of Christ shall end divisions;

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where love is found, in water, wine and wheat:

A banquet hall on holy ground, where peace and justice meet

Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;

As we share in Christ the feast that frees us:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone:

To heal and strengthen, serve and teach, And live the Word they've known

Here the outcast and the stranger, bear the image of God's face;

Let us bring an end to fear and danger:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place

Let us build a house where all are named, Their songs and visions heard:

And loved and treasured, loved and claimed As words within the Word

Built of tears and cries and laughter, Prayers of faith and songs of grace,

Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place

**Community Prayers** Rev. Dr. Lea B., liturgist

*Prayers of thanksgiving, care and healing for*

1. *our world,*
2. *our community*
3. *ourselves*

Response - One: Loving God, in your compassion,

**ALL: Hear our Prayers**

**Response Coat of Many Colors**  Rev. Pressley S., musician

*Back through the years*

*I go wonderin' once again*

*Back to the seasons of my youth*

*I recall a box of rags that someone gave us*

*And how my momma put the rags to use*

*There were rags of many colors*

*But every piece was small*

*And I didn't have a coat*

*And it was way down in the fall*

*Momma sewed the rags together*

*Sewin' every piece with love*

*She made my coat of many colors*

*That I was so proud of.*

*As she sewed, she told a story*

*From the Bible she had read*

*About a coat of many colors*

*Joseph wore and then she said*

*Perhaps this coat will bring you*

*Good luck and happiness*

*And I just couldn't wait to wear it*

*And momma blessed it with a kiss*

**Reading 1 Excerpts from Genesis 37** Sharilyn S., M. Div., lector

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers…Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children because he was the son of his old age, and he made him an ornamented robe. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him and could not speak peaceably to him.

Once Joseph had a dream, and when he told it to his brothers, they hated him even more. He said to them, “Listen to this dream that I dreamed. There we were, binding sheaves in the field. Suddenly my sheaf rose and stood upright; then your sheaves gathered around it and bowed down to my sheaf.” His brothers said to him, “Are you indeed to reign over us? Are you indeed to have dominion over us?” So they hated him even more because of his dreams and his words…

**Response**

*My coat of many colors*

*That my momma made for me*

*Made only from rags*

*But I wore it so proudly*

*Although we had no money*

*I was rich as I could be*

*In my coat of many colors*

*My momma made for me*

**Reading 2**

Now his brothers went to pasture their father’s flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, “Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them.” He answered, “Here I am.” So he said to him, “Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock, and bring word back to me.” So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

So Joseph went after his brothers…They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, “Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams.” But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, “Let us not take his life.” Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him”—that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father.So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the ornamented robe that he wore, and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

**Response**

*So with patches on my britches*

*And holes in both my shoes*

*In my coat of many colors*

*I hurried off to school*

*Just to find the others laughing*

*And making fun of me*

*In my coat of many colors*

*My momma made for me*

**Reading 3**

Then they sat down to eat, and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, “What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh.” And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

**Response**

*And oh, I couldn't understand it*

*For I felt I was rich*

*And I told 'em of the love*

*My momma sewed in every stitch*

*And I told 'em all the story*

*Momma told me while she sewed*

*And how my coat of many colors*

*Was worth more than all their clothes*

*But they didn't understand it*

*And I tried to make them see*

*That one is only poor*

*Only if they choose to be*

*Now I know we had no money*

*But I was rich as I could be*

*In my coat of many colors*

*My momma made for me*

*Made just for me*

Let us hear living Words. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon Dolly’s Favorite Song** Rev. Dr. Lea Brown, preacher

**Offertory Remember God Cherishes You** Christine W. And Paul W., musicians

1.There are those who would say we must all be the same,

And that differences must be denied;

But we know that each soul is belov’d in God’s eyes

And we claim all God’s blessings with pride!

*(Chorus) So remember God cherishes you;*

*You are precious, and worthy, and loved.*

*When you live out the truth that is yours,*

*There’s rejoicing in heaven above!*

2. There are voices of fear that deny what we know:

That all of God’s people are blessed.

So we sing loud and clear, with our words and our lives,

And we share the good news we confess: *(to chorus)*

3. When hate threatens to harm, may we speak out as one

And declare that love conquers all fear.

No one shall stand alone; we will walk side by side,

And proclaim that God’s kin\_dom is near! (To chorus)

**Communion** Rev. Dr. Joan S., celebrant, Kris W, acolyte

C: God is with you. **All: And also with you**

C: Let us open our hearts. **All: We open them to God**

C: Let us give God thanks and praise **All: It is a good and joyful thing to do**

**Santo, santo, santo**

**Mi corazón te adora**

**Mi corazón sabe decir**

**Santo eres tú**

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

**My heart, my heart adores you**

**My heart knows how to say to you**

**You are holy, God**

**Our Mother Prayer**

**Our Mother who lives within us, we celebrate your many names.**

**Your wisdom come, your will be done, unfolding from the depths within us.**

**Each day you give us all that we need.**

**You remind us of our strengths, and we embrace them.**

**You support us in our power, and we act with courage.**

**For you are the dwelling place within us,**

**the empowerment around us,**

**and the celebration among us, now and forevermore. Amen**

**Announcements** Rev. Pressley S, liturgist

+ **Book Club this week.** TJ Klune’s “Somewhere Beyond the Sea” on Tues., Oct. 21st, 7:30pm on Zoom. Please read through Ch. 9 if you can.

**Benediction** Rev. Pressley S., liturgist

**All will be well; and all will be well; And all manner of thing will be well;**

**All will be well, be well.**

**Go out with peace. Go out with kindness. Go out with Love,**

**In the name of the Creator, Christ, Comforter, and All that are Wise and Good. Amén/Amen**