

A CELEBRATION OF WORSHIP

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 15, 2020

9:00 a.m.

**All who are able may stand.*

Bold type spoken by the congregation

Self-service assistive listening devices are located on top of the bookcase at the rear of the Sanctuary on the Princess Anne St. side.

GATHERING. . .



*Masks are to be worn throughout the service.
Please remain seated for the hymns.*



The Prelude *Meditation on "Rhosymedre"* arr. Lani Smith

The Welcome and Announcements

The Introit *Shine on Me* Rollo Dillworth

The Call To Worship (from *Psalm 123*) Bridget Harvey, liturgist

To You I lift up my eyes, O You Who are enthroned in the heavens!

**As the eyes of a maid look to the hand of her mistress,
so our eyes look to You, Giver of every good gift.**

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us.

Look with favor upon us, O Lord, and be pleased with our praise and thanksgiving.

The Prayer of Adoration

Gracious Creator, Your day draws near with deliberate haste. We prepare ourselves for the providence that You promise to us in Christ. As we gather in this place and hour to give You all praise and glory, fill us so with the Holy Spirit that we may discern Your will. Empower us to worship You in all that we do, with thanksgiving to Jesus who shows us the way. Glory to You, the One Eternal God- Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

*The Hymn 612 *We Praise You, O God*

*We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator; in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you; we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.*

*We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers; through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'er take us, you will not forsake us, and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.*

*With voices united our praises we offer and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us. To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!*

*The Prayer of Confession *(Psalm 123:1-4)*

Almighty God, You have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to Your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused, we cling to fear and forget to trust in Your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others, we hold tight to our privilege and forget Your laws. Have mercy on us, Lord, for we are weak and prone to disobedience ... (time for silent confession) Hear our prayers, and respond to us with kindness, that we might turn to You again, walk in the light, and live in equity and peace; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*The Assurance of Pardon

Children of light, because we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ, we need not fear –
for he lived for us, he died for us, he was raised for us and prays for us.

Believe the promise of your baptism:
in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Alleluia! Amen.

*The Gloria Patri (spoken)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: World without end. Amen.**

*The Peace and Greeting

The peace of Christ be with you all. **And also with you!**

(Please stand to greet one another in the name of Christ. For those worshipping at home, please share Christ's peace with someone outside Your home this week.)

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD. . .

The Prayer for Illumination

Shine Your light on Your Word, O Lord; by Your Spirit let us see Your wonder. For Your justice outruns our sense of fairness; Your love overwhelms our deepest affections. Open our eyes, unstop our ears, and show us Your most excellent way; for Jesus' sake. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson: *Judges 4:1-7*

The Epistle Lesson: *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

The Anthem

You Will I Love

Johann Scheffler/Kevin Hildebrand

Patti Kerns, soprano; Mary Ann Casey, alto, Roy Jarnecke, tenor; Larry Casey, bass

You will I love, my strength, my tower; You will I love, my hope, my joy.

You will I love with all my power, with fervor time cannot destroy.

You will I love, O Light divine, So long as life is mine.

You will I love, my life, my Savior, You are my best, my truest friend;

You will I love and praise forever, For never shall your kindness end.

Your love for me casts out my fear, You are my Savior dear.

I thank you, Jesus, sun from heaven, whose radiance has brought light to me;

I thank you, who has richly given all that could make me glad and free.

I thank you that my soul is healed with love that you revealed.

O, keep me watchful, then, and humble, and never suffer me to stray;

Uphold me when my feet would stumble, and keep me faithful to your way.

Fill all my nature with your light, O Radiance strong and bright!

You will I love, my crown of gladness, You will I love, my God and Lord.

Within the darkest depths of sadness, and not for hope of high reward.

For your own sake, O Light divine, So long as life is mine.

The Gospel Lesson: *Matthew 25:14-30*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

sdrawkcaB gnidaeR

Allen H. Fisher Jr.

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD. . .

The *Apostles' Creed*

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 Ghost, 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 on 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 Ghost;

the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

TO GO FORTH AND SERVE IN GOD'S NAME. . .

*The Hymn 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

*God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store, nature's wonder,
Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door: gifted by you, we turn to you,
Offering up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.*

*Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone. Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.*

*Treasure, too, You have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word. Open wide our hands,
in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.*

*The Charge & Benediction

*The Postlude



*Kindly remain seated during the Postlude.
You will be dismissed by our Safety Ushers from the back to the front of the Sanctuary.
We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.*



Announcements for November 15-22

Diligence and Patience

What encouraging news from one of the leading pharmaceutical companies this week – a vaccine in testing seems to be effective for 90% of the people tested. How very much the world has waited for this kind of good news! A small but bright beam of light into the darkness of pandemic, this is reason to rejoice with gladness. But much work needs to be done still. Technical issues around transportation, storage, distribution and administration of the vaccine will take many months to unfold.

In the meantime, infection rates in our area have begun to rise dramatically. Encouragement cannot become an excuse for laxity in personal behavior and good public health social practices. Now is not the time to relent, but rather to be diligent in all the good practices that have helped our community, family, friends, and neighbors to live with the threat of Covid 19.

Washing hands frequently, using masks in public, and keeping appropriate social distances take commitment and energy. Let's keep up the good work.

Remember the word to the Galatian Church: "So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith." (Galatians 6:9-10)

Be sure to contact the church office if you want to reserve space in the sanctuary for Sunday morning in-person worship.

And be sure to join us online live at 9:00 a.m. -<https://youtu.be/U9PQhdx15nE>—or anytime after noon on Sunday by using the link on our website. To be notified when new videos are available or the service is live, click the subscribe button on our Youtube channel.

And keep up the good work!

Allen

Reserve Your Seat for Sunday Worship by FRIDAY NOON

If you would like to participate in Worship in the Sanctuary this Sunday, please make a reservation by calling the church office, 540-373-7057, Monday - Friday between 9:00 a.m. and Noon.

You may also make your reservation online by using ACSReservations by clicking on this link:

https://secure.accessacs.com/access/login_guest.aspx?sn=90894. This is a new system so don't hesitate to call the church office if you have questions.

Church Family News:

Capsule of Concern: Walker Broyles, Doris Glidden, Doris Gulatsi, Karla Lewis, Billie Plank, Larry Repanshek, Cindy Watson, Pam Werner

Condolences to: Elizabeth Saunders Morris on the death of her husband, James Morris, who died on November 4, 2020.

Births: Oliver Torsten Rheborg was born November 2, 2020, to Karoline & Bjorn Rheborg, and big sister Elin. Grandparents are Kaci and John LeFebre.

Birthdays this week November 15-22

15. Tim Duffy, Debra Myers
16. Andrew Schneider
17. Janice Cleland, Nancy Hansen, Gillian Harvey
18. John Deegan, Karen Dodson
19. Jerry Parsons
20. Will Doherty
21. Michael Atkinson, Stacy Horne, Jacob McAllister, Russell Morris, Joe Valasko
22. David Deaderick, Terry Fellinger, Clark Hower, Charles McDaniel



Weekly Meetings & Activities

- Wed. (11/11) — Meditation Group, 6:30pm (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Lockett (lockett@juno.com).
- Thurs. (11/12) — Women's Bible Study, 9:30am (Zoom)
Contact Marsha Lockett (lockett@juno.com).
- Handbells, 6pm (Sanct. Balcony)
Adult Choir, 7:30 p.m. (Zoom)
- Fri. (11/13) — PW Circle of Prayer, 10am (FH & Zoom)
- Sun. (11/15) — Worship, 9am (Sanctuary & Youtube)
Adult Church School Classes—Schedule on page 2
Sacred Dance, 3:30pm (Undercroft)
Middle School Fellowship, 5pm (In-person)
High School Fellowship, 5:pm (Zoom)
- Mon. (11/16) — Mission Committee, 7pm (Zoom)
- Tues. (11/10) — Men's Breakfast Group, 7:30am (FH & Zoom)
Contact John Howe (ihowe1969@cox.net).
- Wed. (11/11) — Meditation Group, 6:30pm (Zoom)

Lectionary Readings for Sunday, November 22:

Ezekiel 34:11-16; Psalm 100 *or* Psalm 95:1-7a;
Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46



Service and Mission



Share a Meal with Your Neighbors:

Thanks to all who volunteered to bake/donate pies or prepare dinners for the **Community "Dinner"** on November 21. No more pies are needed! A few more people are needed to make dinners. You would prepare 6 meals, either a ham, meatloaf, or turkey dinner plus sides of your choice and bring the hot meals to the church parking lot at 4:00 p.m. on the 21st. Teams will deliver the meals to homeless Micah guests staying in local motels. Takeout boxes may be picked up beforehand in the Education Building Lobby or Karen Johnson will deliver them to you. Meals and cookies will also be needed for December 19. Contact Karen For more information and to sign up: 540-371-2719, 540-621-5685, (ksjohnson422@msn.com).

Volunteer videographers needed.

No experience required! We are looking to expand our team of videographers that produce the live stream of the services in our Sanctuary for our YouTube channel. Training will be provided. This is a great opportunity for anyone who has an interest in broadcast video production. Contact Milton McNatt, mmcnatt2@verizon.net, 540-373-2852; Ed Foresman, eforesm@gmail.com, 540-207-1314; or Kris Betsill, kahbets@gmail.com, 202-731-2384.

The Salvation Army is having a Collection Drive for items to be distributed during the holiday season for "Seniors in Need" and children. If you would like to participate, please bring the following items to the Education Building Lobby.

For "Seniors in Need" -- Personal items (hand lotion, shampoo, shaving cream), paper products (paper towels, tissues, toilet paper, wipes), cleaning products (laundry detergent, dish detergent, dryer sheets), and linens (sheets, bath towels, and dish towels).

For children (under 12) -- Art supplies (crayons, coloring pencils, coloring books), puzzles, hair accessories, purses, footballs, basketballs, legos, and coats. If you have questions, please contact Marsha Lockett, 372-2050. Items will be delivered to the Salvation Army on December 4.



With about half of the slots still open, we are asking that you please consider signing up to be a **bell-ringer to support the Salvation Army**. Our days are *December 5 and December 12*, at Wal-Mart in Central Park. It's one hour between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. A minimum of 2 people are needed for each hour. Signing up is easily done online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0444ada622a4ff2-salvation>. If you have questions, contact Wayne Hibbeler, 220-7542, hibbelerw@gmail.com.



Thanksgiving Boxes for Families in Need We are partnering again this year with our friends from Beth Shalom Temple and The Islamic Center of Fredericksburg to prepare Thanksgiving Boxes for families, identified through the City Schools, in need. In order to comply with safety guidelines, we are asking individuals and families (or groups of families) to assemble and decorate a box at home and bring it to the church this Sunday, November 15, between 1:00 and 3:00 pm. You may also include a note of well-wishes in your box. Items to include:

- | | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 2 cans corn | 2 cans green beans | 1 can mixed vegetables/other vegetable | 1 can of gravy |
| 1 can cranberry sauce | 1 box stuffing | 1 box instant mashed potatoes | 1 bag dinner rolls |
| 1 box rice and/or macaroni and cheese | 1 box cake mix and frosting | | |
| 1 fruit pie or 1 ready to make pie crust with pumpkin or pie filing | | | |

**Turkeys will be donated by Lifepoint Church*

If you are unable to assemble a box and would like to make a donation instead, please make your check out to "The Presbyterian Church," with "Thanksgiving Box" in the memo line.

Adult Ministry and Education (Youth participation is welcomed and encouraged)

Holy Disunity: How What Separates Us Can Save Us ~ Sunday – 10:30 a.m. Coordinators: Jim and Patty Toler

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83350523383?pwd=bmdyTTFkZkgyNTh4ZlJzWXR2bm95dz09>

Faith and Movie Class ~ Sunday – 12:00 p.m. Coordinators: Eric and Kathy Rocholl; Marty and Vicky Wilder

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86844083632?pwd=YlZlMjVJVTJlbnSWg5SWHlZDZ2a0lhUT09>

Parables and Peanuts ~ Sunday – 4:00 p.m. Coordinator: Bill Nix

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82114607291?pwd=dkZEU2R6eVYrOUVUeHIWYVQ5WWUydz09>