**August 16, 2020**

**Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time**



"Himalayas. Sunny contour the mountains" Nicholas Roerich, 1939

**We are filled with joy at your presence and hope you experience**

**God’s Spirit as you worship and meet with those around you. If you would like more information about RPC, please talk with any Session member or the Pastor.**

**ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD**

**Bold Letters -- Indicate congregational response**

**GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

## In the beginning was the Word,  and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

## And the Word became flesh and lived among us

## The Spirit and the Church say, “Come.”

## The people of the Word say, “Come.”

## Let everyone who is thirsty come.

## Receive the gift of the water of life.

## Hymn *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* #12

**1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.  
  
2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.  
  
3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.  
  
4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

**Opening Prayer**

Almighty God,  
to whom all hearts are open,   
all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
open our hearts  
to the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,   
that we may completely love you  
and magnify your holy fullness;   
through Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Call to Confession**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But when we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin...

**Prayer of Confession**

**Merciful God,**  
**we confess that we have sinned against you**  
**in thought, word, and deed,**  
**by what we have done,**  
**and by what we have left undone.**  
**We have not loved you**  
**with our whole heart and mind and strength.**  
**We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**  
**In your mercy, forgive what we have been,**  
**help us amend what we are,**  
**and direct what we shall be,**  
**that we may delight in your will**  
**and walk in your ways**  
**to the glory of your holy name.**

*Silence is kept for personal confession*

**Assurance of Pardon**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

**Within the great love of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!**

**Thanks be to God**

**A Time with the Children**

**Hymn *I Sing the Mighty Power of Gpd* #32**

**1 I sing the mighty power of God  
that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad  
and built the lofty skies.  
I sing the wisdom that ordained  
the sun to rule the day.  
The moon shines full at God's command,  
and all the stars obey.  
  
2 I sing the goodness of the Lord  
who filled the earth with food.  
God formed the creatures through the Word,  
and then pronounced them good.  
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed,  
where'er I turn my eye,  
if I survey the ground I tread,  
or gaze upon the sky!  
  
3 There's not a plant or flower below  
but makes thy glories known.  
And clouds arise, and tempests blow,  
by order from thy throne,  
while all that borrows life from thee  
is ever in thy care,  
and everywhere that we can be,  
thou, God, art present there.**

**Psalm 121**

I lift up my eyes to the hills.  
From where does my help come

**2My help comes from the Lord,  
     who made heaven and earth.**

**3He will not let your foot be moved;  
    he who keeps you will not slumber.**

**4**Behold, he who keeps Israel  
    will neither slumber nor sleep.

**5**The Lord is your keeper;  
    the Lord is your shade on your right hand.  
**6**The sun shall not strike you by day,  
    nor the moon by night.

**7The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
    he will keep your life.  
8The Lord will keep  
    your going out and your coming in  
    from this time forth and forevermore.**

**Sermon *In the Beginning…***

**Hymn *Great is Thy Faithfulness* #39**

**1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.  
  
Refrain:  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!  
  
2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.  
(Refrain)  
  
3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!  
(Refrain)**

**Together, We Confess Our Faith The Apostle’s Creed (Traditional)**

**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 Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**THE OFFERING**

**Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory**

**Response***(Doxology)* ***Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* #606**

**Prayer of Dedication**

Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.

Through your goodness

you have blessed us with these gifts:

our selves, our time, and our possessions.

Use us, and what we have gathered,

in feeding the world with your love;

through the one who gave himself for us,

Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the People**

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

**Opportunities for Service and Fellowship**

**Hymn *Everytime I Feel the Spirit #66***

**Refrain:  
Every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.  
Yes, every time I feel the Spirit  
moving in my heart I will pray.  
  
1 Upon the mountain, when my Lord spoke,  
out of God's mouth came fire and smoke.  
Looked all around me, it looked so fine,  
till I asked my Lord if all was mine.  
(Refrain)  
  
2 Jordan River, chilly and cold,  
it chills the body but not the soul.  
There is but one train upon this track.  
It runs to heaven and then right back.  
(Refrain)**

**Charge and Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord be kind and gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor

and give you peace.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Amen.**

**Response *Spirit of the Living God* #288**

**Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.  
Melt me; mold me;  
fill me; use me.  
Spirit of the living God,  
fall afresh on me.**

**Postlude**

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| Image result for presbyterian symbol | ***Rockville Presbyterian Church welcomes everyone without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, age, disability or marital status. We also welcome and encourage the full participation of persons without regard to sexual orientation.*** |