

October 18, 2020

## ***Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time***



Tribute Money, Masaccio, 1424-1428

**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

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

Give thanks to God for the faith we share;

**be steadfast in hope through Jesus Christ.**

Pray always, and do not lose heart.

**God will grant justice to the faithful.**

**Gathering Hymn**

**God of Grace and God of Glory**

**#307**

**1** God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.

**2** Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.

**3** Cure thy children's warring madness;  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,  
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

**4** Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore.

Let the gift of thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.

### **Opening Prayer**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
in Christ you have revealed  
your glory among the nations.  
Preserve the works of your mercy,  
that your church throughout the world  
may persevere with steadfast faith  
in the confession of your name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, forever and ever.

**Amen.**

### **Call to Confession**

We come before God not as despised sinners, but as beloved children.  
With the confidence of children of God, let us humbly confess our sin.

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Gracious God,  
our sins are too heavy to carry,  
too real to hide,  
and too deep to undo.  
Forgive what our lips tremble to name,  
what our hearts can no longer bear,  
and what has become for us  
a consuming fire of judgment.  
Set us free from a past that we cannot change;  
open to us a future in which we can be changed;  
and grant us grace  
to grow more and more in your likeness and image;  
through Jesus Christ, the light of the world**

*Silence is kept for personal confession*

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name; you are mine.

**God is doing a new thing; now it springs forth! By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!  
Amen.**

### **Response in Praise**

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**

**#591**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

### **THE WORD**

### **A Time with the Children**

#### **First Reading**

#### **Exodus 33:12-23**

12 Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' 13 Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." 14 He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." 15 And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. 16 For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

17 The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." 18 Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." 19 And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD';<sup>a</sup> and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. 20 But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." 21 And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; 22 and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; 23 then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

**Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading

## Matthew 22:15-22

**15** Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. **16** So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. **17** Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” **18** But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? **19** Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. **20** Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” **21** They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” **22** When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Sermon

## *What is Jesus trying to say?*

## Illumination Hymn

## *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

**#475**

**1** Come, thou Fount of every blessing;  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above;  
praise the mount! I’m fixed upon it,  
mount of God’s unchanging love!

**2** Here I raise my Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I’m come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

**3** O to grace how great a debtor  
daily I’m constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter,

bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart; O take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

### **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.

### **RESPONDING**

### **Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings**

### **Offertory**

### **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.**

### **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.

## SENDING

### Opportunities for Service and Fellowship

**Sending Hymn**      *God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

**#716**

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

### Charge and Blessing

May the God of hope  
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,  
so that you may abound in hope  
by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Whatever you do, in word or deed,  
do everything in the name of Jesus,  
giving thanks to God through him.

**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**



***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.***