

November 8, 2020

## Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time



Three Lamps, Juan Gris, 1910-1911

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

The Lord watches over the strangers;

**God upholds those who are in need**

Stand firm and hold fast to your faith

**God will strengthen us in word and deed**

#### Gathering Hymn

*Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song*

**#737**

**1 Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;  
I'll tell everybody about you wherever I go:  
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.  
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.**

**2 Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.  
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.  
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.  
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.**

**3 As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,  
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.  
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.  
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.**

**4 I fear in the dark and the doubt of my journey;  
but courage will come with the sound of your steps by my side.  
And with all of the family you saved by your love,  
we'll sing to your dawn at the end of our journey.**

#### Opening Prayer

O God, your blessed Son came into the world  
That he might overcome the machinery of evil  
And make us children of God and heirs of eternal life.  
Grant that, having this hope,  
We may be holy as Christ is holy;  
That, when he comes again with power and great glory,

We may be made like him  
In his vision of a beloved kingdom of God;  
Where he dwells and leads  
With you and 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

**Amos 5:18-24**

**Lay Leader:** Elizabeth Boyer

<sup>18</sup> Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

<sup>19</sup> as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

<sup>20</sup> Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,

and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup> I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

<sup>22</sup> Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,

I will not accept them;

and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

<sup>23</sup> Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

<sup>24</sup> But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### Second Reading

**Matthew 25:1-13**

<sup>1</sup> "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids<sup>[a]</sup> took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup> but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup> But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup> Then all those bridesmaids<sup>[c]</sup> got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup> But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup> And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup> Later the other bridesmaids<sup>[d]</sup> came also, saying, 'Lord,

lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup> But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup> Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.<sup>[6]</sup>

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

***Storing Oil***

**Unity Hymn**

***Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning***

**#350**

**1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burning;  
keep your lamps trimmed and burning;  
keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
for the time is drawing nigh.**

***Refrain:***

**Sisters, don't grow weary;  
brothers, don't grow weary;  
children, don't grow weary,  
for the time is drawing nigh.**

**2 It's our faith makes us happy;  
it's our faith makes us happy;  
it's our faith makes us happy,  
for the time is drawing nigh. (*Refrain*)**

**3 We are climbing Jacob's ladder;  
we are climbing Jacob's ladder;  
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
for the time is drawing nigh. (*Refrain*)**

**4 Every round goes higher, higher;  
every round goes higher, higher;  
every round goes higher, higher,  
for the time is drawing nigh. (*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.

## 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**                    *Come! Live in the Light!*                    **#749**

**1 Come! Live in the light!  
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord!  
We are called  
to be light for the kingdom,  
to live in the freedom  
of the city of God.**

***Refrain:***

**We are called to act with justice;  
we are called to love tenderly;  
we are called to serve one another,  
to walk humbly with God.**

**2 Come! Open your heart!  
Show your mercy to all those in fear!  
We are called  
to be hope for the hopeless  
so hatred and violence  
will be no more. (*Refrain*)**

**3 Sing! Sing a new song!  
Sing of that great day when all will be one!  
God will reign,  
and we'll walk with each other  
as sisters and brothers  
united in love. (*Refrain*)**

**Blessing and Charge**

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 honoring 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.*