

August 8, 2021

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Rockville Presbyterian Church - www.rockvillepres.org - Rockville, MD



Abraham and Isaac; John August; 1976

Pastor: Rev. Michael McNamara; **Musician:** Howie Jung; **Lay Leader:** Phil Ruxton

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

*-- Indicates that all who are able may stand

Bold Letters -- Indicate congregational response

Hymns are found in the hardcover

GLORY TO GOD *Hymnal*.

GATHERING

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
maker of heaven and earth.
This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*Gathering Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

#435

1 There's a wideness in God's mercy,
like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven.
There is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgment given.

2 For the love of God is broader
than the measures of the mind.
And the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful,
we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives reflect thanksgiving
for the goodness of our Lord.

Opening Prayer

God of all glory,
on this first day you began creation,
bringing light out of darkness.
On this first day you began your new creation,
raising Jesus Christ out of the darkness of death.

On this Lord's Day grant that we,
the people you create by water and the Spirit,
may be joined with all your works
in praising you for your great glory.

Through Jesus Christ,
in union with the Holy Spirit,
we praise you now and forever.

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. Trusting in God's grace, let us, together, confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

**Holy and merciful God,
in your presence we confess
our failure to be what you created us to be.
You alone know how often we have sinned
in wandering from your ways,
in wasting your gifts,
in forgetting your love.
By your loving mercy,
help us to live in your light
and abide in your ways,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

Silence is kept for personal confession

Assurance of Pardon

Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God, Amen.**

**Praise to God the Father;
praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spirit:
praise to the Three-in-One.
Sing praise, sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Almighty;
praise to the Holy One.**

THE WORD**A Time with the Children****First Reading****Genesis 22:1-10**

1After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." 2He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." 3So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. 4On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. 5Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." 6Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. 7Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

9When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading**Genesis 22:11-19**

¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹² He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld

your son, your only son, from me.” ¹³ And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place “The LORD will provide”;^[a] as it is said to this day, “On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided.”^[b] ¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, ¹⁶ and said, “By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, ¹⁸ and by your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice.” ¹⁹ So Abraham returned to his young men, and they arose and went together to Beer-sheba; and Abraham lived at Beer-sheba.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Sacrifices

***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**

Eternal God,
we praise you that your glory has dawned on us,
and brought us into this Day of Resurrection.
We rejoice that the grave could not hold your Son,
and that he has conquered death,
risen to rule over all powers of this earth.
We praise you that he summons us into new life,
to follow him with joy and gladness.
By your Spirit,
lift us from doubt and despair,
and set our feet in Christ's holy way,
that our lives may be signs of his life,
and all we have may show forth his love.
Praise, glory, and thanksgiving to you,
our God, forever and ever.

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 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me* #700 (vs.1,4)**

**1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

***Blessing and Charge**

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.

Alleluia!

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Amen.

Response** ***Be Still and Know That I Am God

#414

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Postlude