

August 29, 2021

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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



Guest Pastor: Rev. John Molina-Moore; **Musician:** Howie Jung; **Lay Leader:** Mike Herzfeld

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

Here in This Place

Marty Haugen

Welcome

Call to Worship

Our lives are in the care of God.

God has given us abundance and hope.

This day we have come to praise and thank God for all that God has done for us.

We gather to celebrate God's love and to offer our lives in service.

Come, let us open our hearts to the Lord!

Let us rejoice in God's goodness and love.

***Gathering Hymn**

O Day of Rest and Gladness

#393

1 O day of rest and gladness,
O day of joy and light,
O balm for care and sadness,
most beautiful, most bright;
on you, the high and lowly,
through ages joined in tune,
sing "Holy, holy, holy"
to the great God triune.

2 On you, at earth's creation
the light first had its birth;
on you, for our salvation
Christ rose from depths of earth;
on you, our Lord victorious
sent Spirit forth from heaven.
And thus on you, most glorious,
a triple light was given.

3 On you, God's people, meeting,
the Holy Scripture hear,
Christ's living presence greeting,
through bread and wine made near.
New graces ever gaining
from this our day of rest,
we reach the rest remaining
to spirits of the blest.

Opening Prayer

Bountiful God, who gives to us all that we need to sustain our lives: Open our hearts today to hear your words of compassionate justice, that we may focus on the ways in which you intend us to live and be of service to you by serving the world. In Jesus' Name, we pray.

Amen

Call to Confession

Like a nursing mother who cannot forget her child, like a father who welcomes the prodigal home, so God cannot turn away from us. Though we come, week after week, admitting we have turned from God's ways and have not loved our neighbors as ourselves, God is merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love. Therefore, knowing we are beloved children of God, we can admit our failings before God and one another in order to be forgiven, receive new life, and begin again.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you know more than anyone the depth of the world's pain. You know that in all places there are people who suffer poverty, hunger, homelessness, oppression, and torture. Many complain that you do nothing, but you do. You call on us to be your mouths, hands, and feet, to be people who incarnate your love and make it real for all. It is not you who is impotent, but we who refuse to act. Too often we care only about those we know and those who are like us. We do not care enough for the faceless millions who suffer every day. Soften our hearts this morning and inspire us with your Spirit so that we can discern the ways you call us to care for all people, and so that we can respond faithfully to this call. Hear us now, as we continue to confess in the silence of our hearts.

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.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace; grant us peace.

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

First Reading

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—
from where will my help come?
² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.
³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.
⁴ He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.
⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade at your right hand.
⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.
⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.
⁸ The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Luke 12:22-31

²² He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. ²³ For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. ²⁴ Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value

are you than the birds! ²⁵ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life?^[a] ²⁶ If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? ²⁷ Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin;^[b] yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ²⁸ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! ²⁹ And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. ³⁰ For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. ³¹ Instead, strive for his^[c] kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What to be next

***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

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Omar Westendorf

***Doxology**

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

#606

***Prayer of Dedication**

O God, you bless us in so many areas of our lives—in places we often fail to recognize as blessing. Help us have eyes to see and hearts to understand the depth of your love and blessing. Today, we give out of that blessedness,

dedicating ourselves to lives of justice and love, giving all that we are and all that we have to bring about your beloved community, here and now.

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

Thou I May Speak

#693

1 Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain,
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.

2 Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.

3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control;
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.

*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	<i>Be Still and Know That I Am God</i>	#414
Be still and know that I am God.		
Be still and know that I am God.		

Postlude	<i>Sweet Hour of Prayer</i>	William W. Walford
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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.