

September 5, 2021

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost



Guest Pastor: Rev. Harry Stock; **Musician:** Howie Jung; **Lay Leader:** Sue McKee Anderson

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 either in the hardcover **GLORY TO GOD Hymnal**.

GATHERING

Prelude

Soon and Very Soon

Andraè Crouch

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

All Things Bright and Beautiful

#20 (vs. 1,2)

Refrain:

All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors;
God made their tiny wings.

(Refrain)

2 The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset, and the morning
that brightens up the sky:

(Refrain)

Opening Prayer

Gracious God, we rejoice that you have made us one with you and one with each other. We are grateful that you call us to be open and to accept one another. Help us to preserve our openness and to strengthen it with all our hearts. Help us to realize that there can be no understanding if there is rejection and division. Divine God, when we accept one another we accept you and we love you with our whole being and our being is rooted in your being and our spirit is rooted in your spirit. Let us be bound together with love as we go our diverse ways, united in this one spirit

which makes you present in the world, and which makes you witness to the ultimate reality that is Love.

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

My dear friends in Christ. Rejoice for God has not only heard your confession but God has forgiven you.

When we reach for God, we do not have to reach far, for God is always closer to us than we can imagine. Even when we are doubtful, God's presence and love are assured.

We rejoice that we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

Amen

***Response in Praise**

Glory Be to the Father

#581

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,**

is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, amen.

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

First Reading

Matthew 6:19-21; 25-34

Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal; but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet God feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will God not much more clothe you—you of little faith? Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed God knows that you need all these things. But strive first for God's Realm and God's righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 8

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

You have set your glory above the heavens.

From the lips of children and infants you have ordained praise because of your enemies,

to silence the foe and the avenger.

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,

what are we that you are mindful of us,
the children of your creation that you care for us?
You made us a little lower than the heavenly beings and crowned us with glory and honor.

You made us rulers over the works of your hands; You put everything under our feet:

all the flocks and herds,
and the beasts of the field,
the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea,
all that swim the paths of the seas.

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon A Light in the Cosmos: Small - Majestic – and Honored

***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 *Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness*

Bernadette Farrell

***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.

Communion Hymn *Let Us Break Bread Together

#525

**1 Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees)
let us break bread together on our knees.**

Refrain:

**When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me)**

**2 Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees)
let us drink wine together on our knees. (*Refrain*)**

**3 Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees)
let us praise God together on our knees. (*Refrain*)**

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Praise to you, O God, for all your works.
You created the world and called it good
and made us in your image to live together in love.
You made a covenant with us,
and even when we turned from you,
you remained ever faithful.

Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.
He lived among us and told your story.
He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.
He shared our pain and died our death,
then rose to new life that we might live,
and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love
revealed to us in Jesus Christ,
we break bread and share the cup,
giving ourselves to you
to live for him in joy and praise.
Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine
that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ
and that we may be his body for the world.
By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another
until we feast with him and with all your saints
in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever.

Amen.

***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.

Breaking the Bread

Communion

Please partake of the communion elements at home as the participants in the sanctuary partake.

Prayer after Communion

Divine God, now that we have tasted of the banquet you have prepared for us in the world to come, may we all one day share together the inheritance of the saints in the life of your heavenly city.

In the bonds of our Christian faith, we yield ourselves to you, Loving God, that we may serve You whose presence among us has no ending. Alleluia.

SENDING

Opportunities for Service and Fellowship

***Sending Hymn**

Love Divine, All Love Excelling

#366 (vs1,4)

**1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling;
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion;
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation;
enter every trembling heart.**

4 Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

***Blessing and Charge**

May God bless you and keep you.

May the face of God shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

May God's peace be yours in your going out and in your coming in,

in your lying down and in your rising up,

in your labor and in your leisure,

in your laughter and in your tears,

until you come to stand in God's presence in that day where there is no
sunset and no dawn.

Go from this place and be the church you have been called to be, and take
with you the blessings of God our Creator, God the Christ, and God the Holy
Spirit.

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

Holy, Holy

David E. Poole



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.