

Westminster Presbyterian Church A Service for the Worship of God

Twenty-Nineth Sunday in Ordinary Time October 18, 2020

We Gather in God's Word

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Kathy Felder

Rejoice in the Lord always! **Again, I say rejoice!**

Interlude

*Call to Worship (from Psalm 96)

Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Say among the nations, "The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the peoples with equity."

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it.
Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy!

*Opening Prayer

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun Does its successive journeys run, His kingdom stretch from shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To Him shall endless prayer be made, And praises throng to crown His head; His name, like sweet perfume shall rise With every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue Dwell on His love with sweetest song, And infant voices shall proclaim Their early blessings on His name.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns; The prisoners leap to lose their chains, The weary find eternal rest, And all who suffer want are blessed.

Let every creature rise and bring Honors peculiar to our King; Angels descend with songs again, And earth repeat the loud amen!

Call to Confession

United in our need for God's grace, we confess our sins.

Sovereign God, you created all of us in your image, and yet we confess that we obscure your image within us. Where you are generous, we are stingy. Where you are all compassion, we are all caught up in ourselves. Where you are loving, we are fearful. Where you are steadfast, we are fickle. Forgive us.

Silent Confession.

Reunited by our redemption in Jesus Christ we continue to pray together.

By your gentle hand, reshape us. By your Word recreate us. By your Spirit renew us. Make us generous, compassionate, loving, and steadfast. We ask these things in the name of Christ who is your generous gift to us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*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.

*Passing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

We Hear God's Word

Time for All God's Children

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

Thanksgiving for the Thessalonians' Faith²

We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³ remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸ For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹ For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰ and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Anthem

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love" (v. 1-3)

CHEREPONI

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So 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. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They 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." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Whatever is in Your Check Book"

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."

Matthew 22:21

We Respond to God's Word

Call to Offering

*Hymn 422

"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

BEACH SPRING

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.

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.

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.

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles Creed

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 Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*Hymn #428

"We Give Thee but Thine Own" (v1)

SCHUMANN

We give Thee but Thine own ,Whate'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Organist: Claire Kuhl

Vocalist: Elizabeth Watkins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

October Sermon Topics and Lectionary Readings

October 25: Whatever is at the Top of Your To-Do List

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22: 34-46

Wednesday, October 21

<u>Bell Choir Rehearsal:</u> 5:30-6:30 p.m. (in Sanctuary). If interested there is stll a need for additional ringers. For more information contact the church office.

<u>Evening Study Group:</u> 7:00 p.m. Facilitated discussion LIVE or via Zoom. Topic Matthew – Six Themes. Learn about welcoming all in the final session of this study.

Thursday, October 22

Pop Up Prayers: 8:30 a.m. LIVE undert the Porte Cochere. Bring a Bible, a lawn chair and an open heart!

Every Sunday, Every Day

One Can Donations: drop off non-perishable food items in the narthex or in the office entryway