

October 15, 2023
Rockville Presbyterian Church, Rockville, MD
www.rockvillepres.org



Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson

Musician: Howie Jung

Soloist: Shinae Choi

Lay Leader: Mary Ann Eull

Ushers: Elizabeth & Paul Boyer

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 anyone wearing a name tag or the Pastor.

Bold Letters Indicate congregational response.

*-- Indicates that all who are able may stand.

GATHERING

Prelude

My Lord! What a Morning

Afr. Amer. Spiritual

Welcome

*Call to Worship

Rejoice in the Lord always;

Again, I say, rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

The Lord is at hand.

Rejoice in the nearness of God.

The Lord is near.

Rejoice in the Peace of God.

The Lord is near.

Rejoice in all that is Holy.

The Lord is all.

Let us worship God. Amen

*Gathering Hymn

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart

#804

**1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.**

Refrain:

**Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

**2 With voice as full and strong
as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
the psalms of ancient days.**

Refrain:

**Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

**3 Yes, on through life's long path,
still chanting as ye go,
from youth to age, by night and day,
in gladness and in woe:**

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

**4 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest.**

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

**5 Then on, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your King.**

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice!

Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Announcements (see pages 8-10 in purple)

Prayer of Invocation

Good and gracious God, blanket us with your holy spirit as we worship and praise you on this glorious morning. We have looked high into the heavens and we know that you are God. We lift up songs, prayers, and scripture to you, oh Heavenly One. In this sacred place, we know that you are with us. In this place, we feel your presence. In this place, we know you more deeply. We are your people. Amen.

Prayer of Confession:

Lord, You have told us in Your Word to be anxious for nothing, but anxiety rules our lives. We worry when we could pray. We wring our hands when we could raise them up to you. We cry when we could sing. We lament when we could rejoice. Forgive us. Bring us back to you. Give us Your peace that passes understanding. Silence is kept for personal confession.

Assurance of Pardon

***Response in Praise**

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!

#591 (x3)

**Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, Halle, Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

THE WORD

Children's Sermon

Sacrament of Baptism

Rev. Susan Graceson

***Baptismal Hymn**

God Claims You

STF #2249

**Samuel, Samuel
God claims you,
God helps you,
protects you,
and loves you too.**

Prayer of Illumination

Loving God, on this glorious Sunday, we ask that you quiet our minds, open our souls, and expand our hearts, that we may hear your Word read, spoken, sung, and proclaimed. Let us now fully devote ourselves to worship. In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

God maketh me to lie down in green pastures:

God leadeth me beside the still waters.

God restoreth my soul:

God leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for God's name sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for thou art with me;

thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:

thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:1-9

4 ¹ Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

² I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³ Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸ Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹ As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

1 When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

2 Does sadness fill my mind?
A solace here I find:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

3 Let earth's wide circle round
in joyful notes resound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let air and sea and sky
from depth to height reply:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

4 Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Be this the eternal song
through all the ages long:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

RESPONDING

Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings

Church offerings can be made electronically through our website:
www.Rockvillepres.org *or* by scanning our QR code with your phone.



**Give — Rockville
Presbyterian
Church**

www.rockvillepres.org

***Doxology Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen**

***Prayer of Dedication**

You called forth this church and entrusted it to us, Great God. We bring our offerings to further your reign among us and only you know how adequately we are responding in return for the abundance you have given to us. May what we dedicate here, and the causes that engage our devotion, represent the life you bring to this church.

***The Nicene Creed (excerpt)**

(PC-USA Book of Confessions)

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and became truly human.

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

*Sending Hymn

My Life Flows On

#821

1 My life flows on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

Refrain:

No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? (*Refrain*)

3 What though my joys and comforts die?
I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth. (*Refrain*)

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? (*Refrain*)

Benediction

Postlude

You Alone Are Holy

Anonymous

PRAYERS & BLESSINGS

New to the Prayer List:

- ❖ Mason Dencker who has been hospitalized. Family of Leigh Wirth Dencker whose family member Carolin Dencker, age 22, was killed in the Hamas attack in Israel.

We continue to pray for:

- ❖ Sue Anderson's son, Christian Pastor; Barbara Grewe, who is having surgery this month; Susan's friend Ann who is receiving chemotherapy to treat lung cancer and her friend Marni who is dealing with medical challenges from long-COVID; Jim Baur, Jack Baur's brother who took a fall. Jim will have a long road to recovery; Betty Harbaugh's, granddaughter Michelle; Elke Herzfeld; Pastor Susan's friend Judith; Bernice Brown's family members, Betty and Evan; Verlin Morton (Pastor Doty's husband). Members of the Afghan families under the care of Rockville Refugee Resettlement (RRR) and New Neighbor Interfaith Alliance (NNIA) members as they navigate a new country, new language, and new school system.

Our Homebound:

- ❖ Beth McDonald (Landfair), Bill Landfair and Nancy Webert.
- ❖

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Nursery Care: Professional childcare workers are available to care for your children during the worship service. They are CPR-trained and have undergone full criminal background checks. The nursery is colorfully decorated and stocked with age-appropriate toys, changing tables, cribs, and childcare supplies. Speak to one of the ushers if you need help placing your child in the care of our wonderful workers.

TODAY!

Today, Sunday, October 15th at 4:00pm, Rockville Presbyterian Church is hosting a Community Blessing of the Animals on the front lawn.

Bring your pets for a brief prayer service. All pets (including photos and stuffed toys) and their families are invited to attend. Tell your neighbors and friends that all are welcome. **We hope to see you there!**



UPCOMING RPC EVENTS

RPC 200 Anniversary Celebrations!

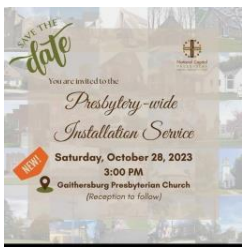


Saturday, October 21st and Sunday, October 22nd - The weekend will include a **free** outdoor bash for the community on Saturday from 11am to 3pm, featuring a moon bounce, games for children, hotdogs, wonderful music from Bach2Rock, treats from Carmen's Italian Ice, and church tours. On Sunday, we will enjoy a special worship service followed by a reception and dedication of the new Briscoe columbarium bench.

Mark your calendars!



Saturday, October 21th from 1:00pm-2:00pm, *Interfaith Works* will host a Parking Lot Pumpkin Party at New Leaf Shelter. The "Trunk or Treat" style is a great way to learn more about the New Leaf Shelter, Interfaith Works' emergency shelter. The event is at 5320 Marinelli Rd. Rockville, MD 20852. Register to attend at <https://www.iworksmc.org/upcoming-events/new-leaf-parking-lot-pumpkin-party>



***NEW LOCATION* Saturday, October 28th, 3:00 pm. Installation of Pastors** of National Capital Presbytery (including our own Pastor Susan!): Will be held at Gaithersburg Presbyterian Church (610 S. Frederick Ave. • Gaithersburg). This will be a service of fanfare celebrating the pastors who have recently received new calls to ministry. Rev. Dr. Jonathan Lee Walton, president of

Princeton Theological Seminary, will deliver the sermon.



New Member Class, RPC 101 Class! Sunday, November 5th, 11:30 a.m. Want to learn more about the history of RPC? Wondering what it means to become a church member? Confused about some of the strange words the pastor

throws around? At a loss as to how to respond when friends ask you what "Presbyterian" means? This is the class for you! Come and bring your questions. Pastor Susan and RPC elders will lead a lively discussion of all things RPC. Lunch included. Children welcome.

THOSE SERVING TODAY

SUNDAY, Oct. 15th

Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson

Musician: Howie Jung

Soloist: Shinae Choi

Lay Leader: Mary Ann Eull

Ushers: Elizabeth & Paul Boyer

Fellowship: Baptism Reception

Counters: Elizabeth & Paul Boyer

Sunday School Teachers:

Elke Herzfeld & Mary Williams

THOSE SERVING NEXT

SUNDAY, Oct. 22nd

200th Anniversary Celebration

Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson

Musician: Howie Jung

Soloist: Shinae Choi

Lay Leader: Aimee Ranaivoarijaona

Ushers: Harry & Beth Redd

Fellowship: Baptism Reception

Counters: Macomber's

Sunday School Teachers:

Pat Wolff & Amy Macomber



ROCKVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Celebrate our new church logo!

The modern design reflects both our historic roots and progressive future while boldly embracing the big red doors that uniquely identify RPC in our community.



MORE LIGHT
PRESBYTERIANS

Rockville Presbyterian Church is a member of the More Light network of Presbyterian churches. We welcome 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.