

March 10, 2024
Rockville Presbyterian Church
Rockville, MD

www.rockvillepres.org



Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson

Minister of Music: Huai-En Tsai

Lay Leader: Amy Macomber

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

This Is My Father's World

Maltbie Babcock

Welcome

*Call to Worship

Let Jesus come.

Open the doors of the church.

Let Jesus come inside.

Expand the limits of our minds.

Let Jesus come inside.

Widen the boundaries of our souls.

Let Jesus come inside.

Loosen the restrictions of our hearts.

Let Jesus come inside.

Tame the wildness of our ways.

Let Jesus come.

Amen.

*Gathering Hymn

Jesus, We Are Here

#392

**1 Jesus, we are here;
Jesus, we are here;
Jesus, we are here;
we are here for you.**

**2 Savior, we are here;
Savior, we are here;
Savior, we are here;
we are here for you.**

**3 Teacher, we are here;
Teacher, we are here;
Teacher, we are here;
we are here for you.**

**4 Spirit, we are here;
Spirit, we are here;
Jesus, we are here;
we are here for you.**

Announcements

Prayer of Invocation

Holy One, cover us with your spirit as we journey through the wilderness. We lift up songs, prayers, and scripture to you, oh Heavenly One. We seek your Holy Spirit. We feel your presence. We know you more deeply. Amen.

Prayer of Confession:

Holy One, we confess all that we are to you. Holy One, we confess all that we are not to you. We want to follow Jesus. We love him. We long to know you through him. He spent forty days in the wilderness. He taught us how to pray to you. He told us how we should live. He showed us how we should love. Still, we fall short of his vision for us. We only want only a small and manageable Jesus. Forgive us. Lead us to the Easter Jesus.

Silence is kept for personal confession.

Assurance of Pardon

***Choral Response**

O Lord, Your Tenderness

STF#2143 (3 times)

Oh Lord, your tenderness,
melting all my bitterness;
Oh Lord, I receive your love.
Oh Lord, your loveliness,
changing my unworthiness;
Oh Lord, I receive your love.
Oh Lord, I receive your love;
Oh Lord, I receive your love.

THE WORD

Children's Sermon

Prayer of Illumination

Loving God, in this time of holiness, 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 107

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,

those God redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;
hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and God delivered them from their distress;

God led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.

Let them thank the Lord for the Lord's steadfast love,
for the Lord's wonderful works to humankind.

For the Lord satisfies the thirsty, and fills the hungry with good things.
Some sat in darkness and in gloom,

prisoners in misery and in irons,
for they had rebelled against the words of God,
and spurned the counsel of the Most High.

Their hearts were bowed down with hard labor;
they fell down, with no one to help.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and the Lord saved them from their distress;

the Lord brought them out of darkness and gloom,
and broke their bonds asunder.

Let them thank the Lord for the Lord's steadfast love,
for the Lord's wonderful works to humankind.

For God shatters the doors of bronze,
and cuts in two the bars of iron.

Let them thank the Lord for the Lord's steadfast love,
for the Lord's wonderful works to humankind.

And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,
and tell of the Lord's deeds with songs of joy.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

2nd Reading

Job: 42

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Job's Perfect Storm

**I will come to you in the silence,
I will lift you from all your fear.
You will hear my voice,
I claim you as my choice,
Be still, and know I am here.**

Refrain

**Do not be afraid, I am with you.
I have called you each by name.
Come and follow me,
I will bring you home;
I love you and you are mine.**

**I am hope for all who are hopeless,
I am eyes for all who long to see.
In the shadows of the night,
I will be your light,
come and rest in me. *(Refrain)***

**I am strength for all the despairing,
Healing for the ones who dwell in shame.
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,
and all will know my name. *(Refrain)***

**I am the Word that leads all to freedom,
I am the peace the world cannot give.
I will call your name, embracing all your pain,
Stand up, now, walk, and live!. *(Refrain)***

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.



***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.

***Affirmation of Faith:**(adapted and excerpted from the PC-USA *Book of Order*, W-1.0000)

In Jesus Christ, God entered fully into the human condition in an act of self-revelation, redemption, and forgiveness. Entering the brokenness of the world, God in Jesus Christ atoned for sin and restored human life. By so entering the created world, God brought time and space, matter and human life to fulfillment as instruments for knowing and praising their Creator. Jesus of Nazareth offered the perfect human response to God. The Life that redeems reveals the form and purpose of redeemed life. Jesus Christ is the living God, present in common life.

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 Shepherd Will Supply My Need

#803

**1 My shepherd will supply my need;
Jehovah is his name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed,
beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back
when I forsake his ways,
and leads me, for his mercy's sake,
in paths of truth and grace.**

**2 When I walk through the shades of death
your presence is my stay;
one word of your supporting breath
drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes,
does still my table spread;
my cup with blessings overflows;
your oil anoints my head.**

**3 The sure provisions of my God
attend me all my days;
O may your house be my abode,
and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
while others go and come;
no more a stranger, or a guest,
but like a child at home.**

Benediction

Postlude

You Are My Hiding Place

Michael Ledner



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.



ROCKVILLE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

**215 West Montgomery Ave.
Rockville, MD 20850
301-762-3363**



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.



Sunday, March 10, 2024
Welcome to Our Family of Worship
Rockville Presbyterian Church
ROCKVILLEPRES.ORG

PRAYERS & BLESSINGS

We continue to pray for:

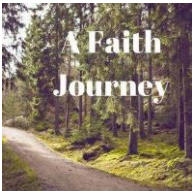
- ❖ RPC Treasurer Yolanda Darden and her husband as they receive treatment for long term COVID; Verlin Morton (Pastor Doty's husband) who is home now in D.C.; Ann Kelly's dear friend Kristy as she faces multiple medical challenges; Betty Harbaugh's daughter Karen who has been hospitalized with COVID; Betty Harbaugh and her family as they grieve the passing of her granddaughter Michelle; Mason Dencker; Jeff Taylor (Bob Taylor's son) who has been diagnosed with melanoma.

Our Homebound:

- ❖ Beth McDonald (Landfair) and Bill Landfair.

ANNOUNCEMENTS and UPCOMING EVENTS

Next **Sunday, March 17th Congregational Meeting**, following worship service. This will be a very brief meeting to vote on the Nominating Committee's slate of new elders and a Clerk of Session.



Join us today, **March 10th after service at 11:30** for our - **Faith Journey** – Our guests are: Sue McKee Anderson & Harry Redd.



Tuesday March 12th -Lunch Bunch - will meet at the home of Harry & Beth Redd



Easter Choir Practice

- ✚ Sundays in March **continues** this **Sunday, March 10th**.
- ✚ 9:30 AM 10:00 AM
- ✚ Anyone interested in singing with community, please join Minister of Music, Huai-En Tsai, Sundays in March as he teaches us a special Easter song to share during worship. All individuals are welcome and do not have to have any prior singing experience.



The Mission Committee is looking for a new chair. Are you Interested?
Talk to Pastor Susan or Rachel Jung.



We are collecting offerings for the **One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS)** during Lent. One Great Hour of Sharing, is a PC(USA) offering which supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self-Development of People. Use the special envelopes in the pews or donate online/in-person by indicating your offering is for **OGHS**.



RPC is collecting supplies for the **Mansfield Kaseman Clinic** through **Sunday, March 31st**. (Easter Sunday). Click here [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) to purchase items from our Amazon wish list. To view most needed items, go to: <https://www.rockvillepres.org/communityservice>



Easter Lilies We will be ordering Easter lilies again this year to decorate the sanctuary. **Please sign up on or before Sunday, March 24th**. The sign-up sheet is on the kitchen door. The price per lily will be \$10 (you can pay by cash or check made out to RPC. (Please indicate it is for ‘Easter Lily’ on the memo line). You will be able to take home your lily after the Easter service. If you would like your lily to go to a home bound or sick member, please indicate that on the sign-up sheet and we will deliver the lily to that person. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Macomber at 240-274-2070 or email: amacomber2@verizon.net.

March Happenings at RPC

Sunday, March 17th - after service a reception for Barbara Brady, our outgoing Office Manager.

Sunday, March 24th - Palm Sunday.

Thursday, March 28th - Maundy Thursday dinner 6:00pm, sign-up is on the Kitchen door & worship service at 7:00.

Friday, March 29th - Good Friday service 7:00 pm

Sunday, March 31st – **He Has Risen! Easter Sunrise Service (approx. 6:35 am) & Easter Sunday Service with a baptism at 10:30 am** followed by an Easter Egg Hunt (*after service*).
No Sunday School.

<u>THOSE SERVING THIS SUNDAY, March 10th 10:30 AM</u>	<u>THOSE SERVING NEXT SUNDAY, March 17th 10:30 AM</u>
<p><i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i> Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson Minister of Music: Huai-En Tsai Lay Leader: Amy Macomber Ushers: Elizabeth & Paul Boyer Fellowship: Jie Yu Counters: Elizabeth & Paul Boyer Sunday School Teachers: Elke Herzfeld & Pat Wolff</p>	<p><i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i> Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson Minister of Music: Huai-En Tsai Lay Leader: Pat Wolff Ushers: Beth & Harry Redd Fellowship: Jie Yu Counters: Macomber Family Sunday School Teachers: Elizabeth Dawson & Mary Williams</p>