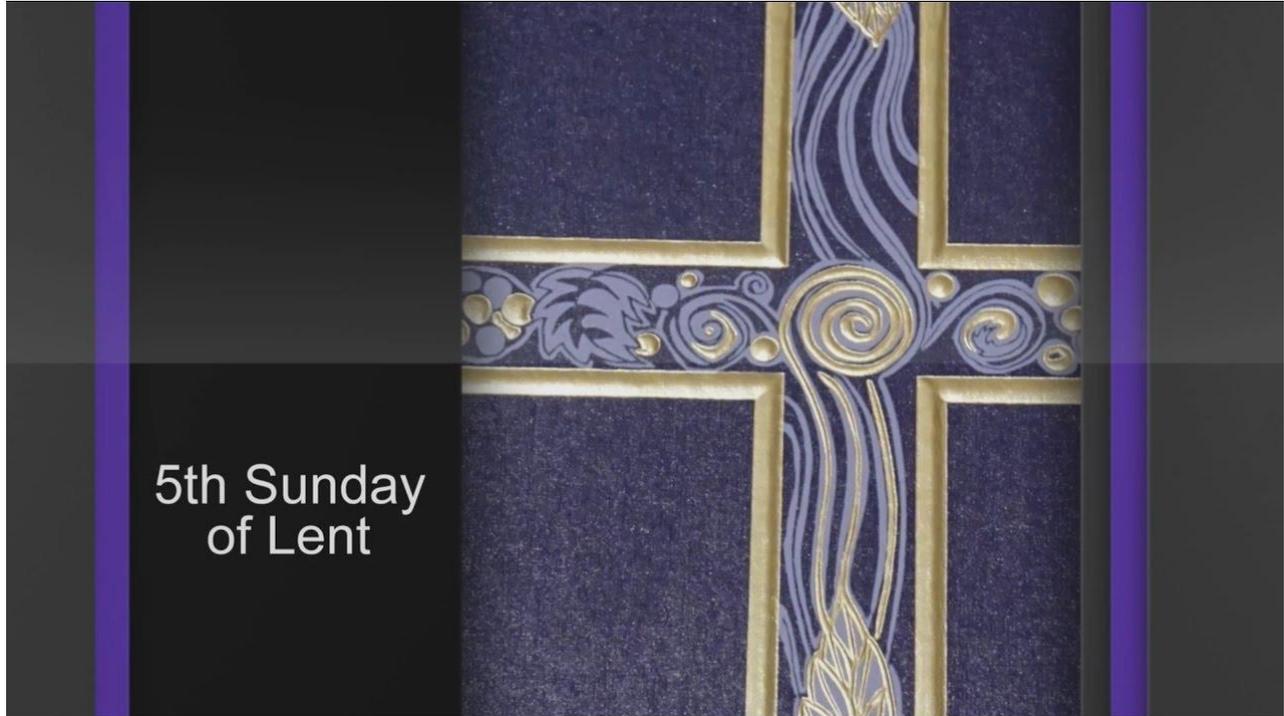


March 17, 2024
Rockville Presbyterian Church
Rockville, MD
www.rockvillepres.org



Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson

Minister of Music: Huai-En Tsai

Lay Leader: Pat Wolff

Ushers: Harry & Beth Redd

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

In His Time

Diane Ball

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

We come to God in hope of restoration.

The God of Jesus Christ restores.

We come to God in hope of healing.

The God of Jesus Christ heals.

We come to God in hope of help.

The God of Jesus Christ helps.

We come to God in hope of strength.

The God of Jesus Christ strengthens.

We come to God in hope of belonging.

The God of Jesus Christ claims us.

Let us worship the God of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

***Gathering Hymn**

In God Alone

#814 (3 times)

**In God alone my soul can find rest and peace,
in God my peace and joy.**

**Only in God my soul can find its rest,
find its rest and peace.**

Announcements (See pages 6-8 in purple)

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 God, hear our prayer. There is pain and there is sorrow. There are broken relationships and broken hearts. Sometimes we are the problem. Sometimes we cause the pain. Sometimes we break the relationship. Sometimes we shatter the heart. For those times in which we fail to live into your divine vision for us, we ask for your forgiveness. Perhaps we were afraid, or angry, or jealous, or lazy, or resentful. We ask for your help. Make us willing to be willing to receive your healing grace. Help us turn away from our former selves, through Christ, who is our example, we pray. Amen

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 119 :11-18

I treasure your word in my heart,
so that I may not sin against you.

Blessed are you, O Lord;

teach me your statutes.

With my lips I declare all the ordinances of your mouth.

I delight in the way of your decrees as much as in all riches.

I will meditate on your precepts,

and fix my eyes on your ways.

I will delight in your statutes;

I will not forget your word.

Deal bountifully with your servant,

so that I may live and observe your word.

Open my eyes, so that I may behold wondrous things out of your law.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

After GOD had finished addressing Job, he turned to Eliphaz the Temanite and said, “I’ve had it with you and your two friends. I’m fed up! You haven’t been honest either with me or about me—not the way my friend Job has. So here’s what you must do. Take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my friend Job. Sacrifice a burnt offering on your own behalf. My friend Job will pray for you, and I will accept his prayer. He will ask me not to treat you as you deserve for talking nonsense about me, and for not being honest with me, as he has.” They did it. Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite did what GOD commanded. And GOD accepted Job’s prayer. After Job had interceded for his friends, GOD restored his fortune—and then doubled it! All his brothers and sisters and friends came to his house and celebrated. They told him how sorry they were and consoled him for all the trouble GOD had brought him. Each of them brought generous housewarming gifts. GOD blessed Job’s later life even more than his earlier life. He ended up with fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, one thousand teams of oxen, and one thousand donkeys. He also had seven sons and three daughters. He named the first daughter Dove, the second, Cinnamon, and the third, Darkeyes. There was not a woman in that country as beautiful as Job’s daughters. Their father treated them as equals with their brothers, providing the same inheritance. Job lived on another 140 years, living to see his children and grandchildren—four generations of them! Then he died—an old man, a full life.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Jesus and Job

*Unity Hymn

Be Still, My Soul

#819

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side.

Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.

**Leave to thy God to order and provide,
who through all changes faithful will remain.**

**Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

**2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake
to guide the future surely as the past.**

**Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.**

**Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.**

**3 Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
when we shall be forever with the Lord;
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

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.



Offering Anthem

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Adoniram J. Gordon

***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

More Love to Thee, O Christ

#828

1 More love to thee, O Christ,
more love to thee!
Hear thou the prayer I make
on bended knee.
This is my earnest plea:
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee,
more love to thee!

2 Once earthly joy I craved,
sought peace and rest.
Now thee alone I seek;
give what is best.
This all my prayer shall be:
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee,
more love to thee!

3 Then shall my latest breath
whisper thy praise;
this be the parting cry

**my heart shall raise.
This still its prayer shall be:
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee,
more love to thee!**

Benediction

Postlude

God Will Take Care of You

Stillman Martin

PRAYERS

New to the Prayer list:

- ❖ **Joan Romaine's sister, Debbie who is undergoing treatment for cancer; Heather & Tiffany friends of Elizabeth Boyer, as they say goodbye to a beloved pet; the family and friends of Jerry Macomber's colleague, Lewis, who recently passed away; Verlin Morton (Pastor Doty's husband) who is in rehab after a hospital stay.**

We continue to pray for:

- ❖ **RPC Treasurer Yolanda Darden and her husband as they receive treatment for long term COVID; 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

Today! Congregational Meeting, following worship service and a reception for Barbara Brady, our outgoing Office Manager.



Easter Choir Practices continue this Sunday, March 17th from 9:30 AM to 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.



Easter Lilies - Please sign up before next 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 can take home your lily after 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 email: amacomber2@verizon.net



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>

Holy Week Begins at RPC



Sunday, March 24th - Palm Sunday. We will begin the service with a procession, waving palms, as we remember Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. This service marks the beginning of Holy Week. *Deadline to order Easter Lilies.*



Thursday, March 28th - Maundy Thursday dinner at 6:00pm, (sign-up is on the Kitchen door). Worship service begins at 7:00 pm and will be shared with Emanuel Indonesian Church who will be providing music during the service.



Friday, March 29th - Good Friday, April 7th at 7:00 pm. Worship together with RPC on Good Friday as we commemorate Jesus' crucifixion and death on the cross. We are reminded that Jesus died in order for people to have a stronger relationship with God.



Sunday, March 31st – He Has Risen! Easter Sunrise Service (approx. 6:35 am) & POTLUCK BREAKFAST – 9:30 am. Bring a breakfast item to share as we gather together in the Calvin Room in preparation for our Easter Celebration. 10:30 am Easter Sunday Service with a baptism followed by an Easter Egg Hunt at approximately 11:30am.

THOSE SERVING THIS SUNDAY
March 17th 10:30 AM

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson
Minister of Music: Dr. Huai-En Tsai
Lay Leader: Pat Wolff
Ushers: Beth & Harry Redd
Fellowship: Jie Yu
Counters: Macomber Family
Sunday School Teachers:
Joel Masselink & Mary Williams

THOSE SERVING NEXT SUNDAY
March 24th 10:30 AM

Palm Sunday

Pastor: Rev. Susan Graceson
Minister of Music: Dr. Huai-En Tsai
Lay Leader: Harry Redd
Ushers: Sue & Dave Anderson
Fellowship: Patti Sorini
Counters: Anne & Jack Baur
Sunday School Teachers:
Mary Williams & Amy Macomber



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 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.

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