First Presbyterian Church of Rolla Worship Service for 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Nov. 19, 2023

Pre-Service Music: I Love to Tell the Story - William G. Fischer, arr. by Matt Schinske

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: Beautiful Savior - C.E. Walz

Introit #788: To You, O Lord, We Lift Our Eyes Chancel Choir

Responsive Call to Worship and Prayer of the Day

To you, O God of the heavens, we lift our eyes.

Have mercy on us!

God has been our dwelling place from generation to generation.

Hear us when we call!

From everlasting to everlasting, God is with us.

We will magnify your holy name!

Prayer of the Day

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Opening Hymn #687: O God Our Help in Ages Past v.1, 2, 3, 4 (stand)

Call to Confession

As children of God, we come to God in our joys, in our sorrows, in our fears, and in our guilt.

Knowing that God loves us and embraces us, let us bring our confessions to God.

Prayer of Confession

God of abundance, you have given us so many gifts. You bless us with talents, resources, skills, and knowledge, and yet we hide them under a bushel. We hoard these gifts, instead of following you and sharing with those in need. We have been poor stewards of all you have given. Forgive us, and help us grow what we are given, that it might be returned in service to you.

Declaration of Pardon

God has destined us not for wrath, but for salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that we may live with him.

Praise be to Christ! Alleluia!

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #581:Glory Be to the Father(please stand)Anthem:An Invitation to PraiseJohn Parker & Stan Pethel

Time for sharing joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Worship leader will lead the prayers.

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor.

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy: through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray:

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

Prayer for Illumination:

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

Scriptures for the Day

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12 – 18

Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1 - 11

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:14 - 30

Heaven and earth will pass away, but the word of the Lord is forever.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon:

Talents

Susan Murray

(please stand)

Affirmation of Faith: 1 Tim. 3:16, 2 Tim. 2:11-13

Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of our religion: Christ Jesus was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, preached among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory.

The saying is sure: If we have died with Christ, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful for he cannot deny himself.

Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

(stand)

Offering #710:

We Lift Our Voices

Prayer of Dedication:

Blessed are you, Maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts that they may be used to your glory in this place. Help us to share your gifts with all those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

<u>Sending Hymn #384</u>:

Soon and Very Soon

(stand)

Charge and Benediction:

Soon and very soon...we are going to see the King! Share this good news through your words and deeds!

Go in peace. Live in love. Serve the Lord

Postlude: Living Hope - Phil Wickham and Brian Johnson, arr. James Koerts

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