

GREETING

Gathered in Christ. **We serve with grace.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Holy One, **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

Beloved, we are God’s children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *“Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory”*#890

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.

FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, “The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.” ¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will

make of all the inhabitants of the earth. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

¹Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

³You turn us back to the dust and say, "Turn back, O children of earth."

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

**⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

**⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath? Who rightly fears your indignation?]

¹²**So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW 25: 14-30

Glory to you, O Lord. [Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going

on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'” The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON “*Gifted, in the love of God, is it on the shelf or at work?*”

HYMN OF THE DAY “*O God Our Help in Ages Past*”.....#632

APOSTLES CREED

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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. *A brief silence.* 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.**

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders (*leaders may be named*). Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you (*especially*). Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*) we praise your goodness. 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 and Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

OFFERTORY SONG "GIVE THANKS"

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the holy one. Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. And now let the weak say I am strong. Let the poor say I am rich; because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks. Give thanks.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **Amen**

COMMUNION HYMN "*Christ Be Our Light*" #715

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. God most mighty, God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation. Hear us as we praise;

HYMN: “*Holy, Holy, Holy*” Setting 4, #153

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. Remembering his death, Celebrating his resurrection, Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. You are Bread: feed us with yourself. You are wine: warm our hearts and make us one. God, you are Fire: transform us with hope. God most majestic, God our strength and our song, You show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD’S PRAYER

HYMN: “*Lamb of God*” Setting 4, #154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG: “*Standin’ in the Need of Prayer*”

**Refrain: It’s me, it’s me, it’s me, oh Lord. Standing in the need of prayer.
It’s me, it’s me, it’s me, oh Lord. Standing in the need of prayer.**

Not my sister, not my brother, but it’s me, oh Lord.
Standing in the need of prayer.

Not my mother, not my father but it’s me, oh Lord.
Standing in the need of prayer. **Refrain**

Well it’s not my sister, and it’s not my brother, but it’s me, Lord.
Well, it’s not my mother or my mother-in-law but it’s me, Lord. **Refrain**

Not the preacher, not the deacon but it’s me, oh Lord.
Standing in the need of prayer.

Not my children, not my neighbor, but it’s me, oh Lord.
Standing in the need of prayer. **Refrain**

Well it’s not my preacher and it’s not the deacon, but it’s me, Lord.
Well it’s not my children and it’s not my husband but its me, Lord. **Refrain.**

SONG OF PEACE

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*STATE OF THE CHURCH meeting will take place following worship today.
Please plan to stay and attend this important event.*

Today and next Sunday, we will be gathering food for the Country Cupboard or Food Bank to feed those who are hungry. There are two baskets, one on the north side on the front pew and one on the south side on the front pew. You are all invited to bring food pantry items to fill the basket on your favorite side of the sanctuary.

Mark your calendars! We begin the Advent Season, Tuesday, November 28, at Rankin Presbyterian at NOON with soup (provided by Rankin) and discussion, followed by choir practice. Soup begins at NOON, discussion at 12:30pm. Come to know the words, thoughts, and meanings behind our beautiful Advent hymns that move all of us in preparing our hearts to receive the blessing in the stable on Christmas!

1. Who plotted to have the entire Hebrew nation completely exterminated? (Esther)
2. Who stole idols from her father? (Genesis 31:19)
3. What three rulers, hearing Paul defend himself in Ceasarea, agreed that he deserved no punishment? (Acts 25:23-26, 32)

(The Complete Book of Bible Trivia, J. Stephen Lang)

1. On a very cold, snowy Sunday in February, only the minister and one farmer arrived at the village church. The minister observed, "Well, I guess we'll have a service today." To which the farmer replied, "If only one cow shows up at feeding time, I feed it."
2. Minister: "So your mother says your prayers with you every night? What does she say?" Little boy: "Thank God, he's in bed."
3. Bulletin Bloop: "Ladies Bible Study will be held Thursday morning at 10:00. All ladies are invited to lunch in Fellowship Hall after the B.S. is done."

(World's Greatest Collection of Church Jokes, Paul M. Miller)

Terresa will be working remotely for the remainder of the calendar year. She is available for all church needs; the best way to contact her is by email.

Phone number: 842-2246; Email lutheranchurchbrush@yahoo.com

Ro's Office Hours: Today 8am-1pm

Monday 8:00-2:00pm; Wednesday 2:00-5:00pm

Next Sunday 8am-1pm and 3pm-6pm

Ro's Phone: (970) 631-2715; Ro's Email: lutheranchurchpastor@gmail.com

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory



1 Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord;
2 He has sound - ed forth the trum - pet that shall nev - er call re - treat;
3 In the beau - ty of the lil - ies Christ was born a - cross the sea,



he is tram - pling out the vin - tage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
he is sift - ing out the hearts of men be - fore his judg - ment seat.
with a glo - ry in his bos - om that trans - fig - ures you and me.



he has loosed the fate - ful light - ning of his ter - ri - ble swift sword:
Oh, be swift, my soul, to an - swer him; be ju - bi - lant, my feet!
As he died to make men ho - ly, let us live to make men free,



his truth is march - ing on.
Our God is march - ing on.
while God is march - ing on.

Refrain



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry! Hal - le - lu - jah! His truth is march - ing on.

O God, Our Help in Ages Past



- 1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
- 2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
- 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
- 4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

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Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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