

OPENING HYMN: "Christ, Be Our Light"

Longing for light, we wait in darkness, Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

REFRAIN: Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. (Refrain)

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. (Refrain)

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. (Refrain)

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong, Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. (Refrain)

Call to Confession (Liturgist)

As we return again and again to God in need of God's grace, let us now turn to God confessing the ways we fall short of what God hopes for us. Let us pray together the prayer of confession:

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always lived up to the example set by Jesus. You call us to turn away from the behaviors and attitudes of the world around us and to be renewed and transformed by Your grace at work in our lives, yet we fail many times to do this. We sometimes don't love with our whole heart and we lack patience. We want to repay evil with evil instead of overcoming evil with good. Forgive us, we pray, and continue the work that You have begun in us, so that our words and deeds may bring honor and glory to You.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God gives us strength and courage to move past our mistakes and wrong choices. Friends, believe the Good News...

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.

Response: "Christ Be Beside Me"

Christ be beside me; Christ be before me; Christ be behind me, King of my heart. Christ be within me; Christ be below me; Christ be above me, never to part.

Passing of the Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Time with Children

Jenny Cudahy

Prayer of Illumination

(Liturgist)

Let us prepare our hearts to hear God's Word by praying together the prayer for Illumination:

O God, we come again today because we need to be filled with your goodness and abundant life. As we listen to your word, open us up, so that we may hear your message anew. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Romans 12:9-21

(Liturgist)

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' ²⁰ No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN AFTER SERMON: "Goodness Is Stronger than Evil"

Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate; light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death. Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us. Oh, victory is ours; victory is ours, through God who loves us.

Call to Offering

(Liturgist)

God asks us to be generous in every way we can. Your generosity shows when lives are changed and people are helped in their time of need. We are so very grateful to all of you who give to the mission and ministry of Calvary. Let us pray the prayer of dedication together:

Prayer of Dedication

As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. In Christ we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People and The 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 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.

CLOSING HYMN: "Bring Forth the Kingdom"

You are salt for the earth, O people: Salt for the Kingdom of God! Share the flavor of life, O people; Life in the Kingdom of God!

REFRAIN: Bring forth the Kingdom of mercy, bring forth the Kingdom of peace; bring forth the Kingdom of justice, bring forth the City of God!

You are a light on the hill, O people: Light for the City of God! Shine so holy and bright, O people: Shine for the Kingdom of God! (Refrain)

You are a seed of the Word, O people: Bring forth the seeds of justice, grow in the Kingdom of God! (Refrain)

We are a blest and a pilgrim people: Bound for the Kingdom of God! Love our journey and love our home-land: Love is the Kingdom of God! (Refrain)

Benediction

Postlude:

CHORAL SONG

Samuel Wesley

"And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." ~ Philippians 4:7

Pastor Yearick is the organizing pastor of Creekside Church, a New Worshiping Community in the Clarksburg, MD area in the northern part of our presbytery. She has been in ministry for 33 years and has been in NCP Presbytery for 23 of those years! She has been a pastor to several churches in NC, VA, and MD and has served in leadership positions in the Presbytery on the Church Development Committee (CDC) and New Things Team. She is all about perceiving the new things God is doing, being a catalyst for new life in Christ, helping people discover their gifts and using them, seeking justice for all, and bringing spiritual refreshment to parched lives.

Today's Worship Participants:

Rev. Carrie Yearick, guest preacher, Jane Kerr, organist,

Judy Viccellio, Director of Music, David Maley, pianist,

Jenny Cudahy, Director of Family Ministry,

Andy Clay, liturgist, and Gabriel Frempong, technology team