

Rockville United Church
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)/United Church of Christ
25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2026 ~ Hybrid Workshop

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

CELEBRATING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

GATHERING MUSIC ***Gather Us In*** Chalice Hymnal No. 284

Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in; our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

For the beauty of this day,
For the comfort of friends nearby,
For the invitation to love and be loved,
For songs and prayers to restore our hope,
For time set apart to nourish the soul,
For gifts to share to restore justice and love in the world,
For all these things we give thanks.
Let us worship God with praise.

Beth Merrill Neel, adapted

HYMN** ***Come Ye Thankful People, Come Chalice Hymnal No. 718

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,
all that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'erflowing stores.

These to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our blessings flow;
and for these our souls shall raise grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION (unison)

God of Grace, you have gifted us with a world of abundance, a land of plenty where all can have enough. We come before you this day to thank you for this abundance, and to repent from our apparent inability to share this wealth. God, we declare our own complicity in systems that sustain some of us, while forsaking many others. We come before you to seek your forgiveness, even as we pray for your justice. Righteous God, you hear the cry of the poor. You listen to those who do without, while so many spend recklessly. Be with us this day, Holy One. Touch our hearts that we may be faithful witnesses and effective voices for justice. God of mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

~ adapted, by Mari Castellanos

MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHORAL RESPONSE ***Seven-Fold Amen*** Reid

SCRIPTURE **Psalm 104:24-30** The Inclusive Bible

O God, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom you have made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the sea, great and wide;
creeping things innumerable are there,
living things both small and great.
There go the ships
and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.
These all look to you
to give them their food in due season;
when you give to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.
When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.
When you send forth your spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching.
All: Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR CHILDREN Pastor Jennifer Knutsen

Following the "Word for Children," we invite children (ages 3 years—5th grade) to attend a Sunday School class, dismissing to the classroom on the lower level through the front side door of the sanctuary. Parents/guardians are welcome to accompany your child(ren) if you choose; please pickup children in their classroom following the worship service. Visitors are welcome. Nursery care for infants through age 3 is available in the nursery on the lower level. Our nursery caregiver is Caitlin Vredenburg. Our nursery helper is Cindy Livingston.

ANTHEM ***Keep Your Lamps!*** Andre Thomas

SCRIPTURE **Exodus 16:12-15** The Inclusive Bible

God spoke to Moses, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Holy One your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp.

When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that God has given you to eat.

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

CHORAL PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION ***Open Thou Mine Eyes*** Rutter

SERMON **All Flourishing is Mutual** Rev. Jennifer Knutsen

HYMN** ***Many and Great O God Chalice Hymnal No. 58

Many and great, O God, are thy things, Maker of earth and sky.
Thy hands have set the heavens with stars; thy fingers spread the mountains and plains.
Lo, at thy word the waters were formed; deep seas obey thy voice.

Grant unto us communion with thee, thou star-abiding one;
come unto us and dwell with us; with thee are found the gifts of life.
Bless us with life that has no end, eternal life with thee.

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Refrain: One: Holy One, in your mercy,
All: ***Receive our prayers.***

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TEACHES by Phyllis N, Windle

**Sacred Beauty, Holy Wisdom, In-dwelling Spirit,
awaken us to the healing and ripening within.
Help us to truly be ourselves,
accepted and loved as we were, are, and will be.
Here and now, may we share your love ever more widely,
and show it to our beloved creation.
Grant everyone "bread" for tomorrow –
be it barley or maize, oat or rice,
rye, spelt, sorghum, or wheat.
You give us abundance. Forgive our greed and
embolden our generosity. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Creator God, we see how your gifts transform the hearts, minds, and souls of this world. Your manifold gifts fill us with overflowing gratitude. With thanksgiving we share from the abundance of your grace. Today we offer the gifts of ourselves and our resources. Through our gifts and our sharing, help us to recognize ourselves in your great circle of life and our participation in the mutual flourishing of all creation. Bless the gifts of this day, and the commitments we make today as a congregation for the year ahead. May our gifts show forth our hope and our faith in the power of your love and grace to nurture the ministries of this church, to be a beacon of hope to the most vulnerable, and to be a blessing that reaches throughout the world. Amen.

HYMN** ***Let All Things Now Living Chalice Hymnal No. 717

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.

By law God enforces. The stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration, a song let us raise:
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

***BENEDICTION**

One: Go forth into the gift-laden world.
All: Beauty is before us.
One: Beauty is behind us.
All: Beauty is above us.
One: Beauty is below us.
All: Praise to the Creator, the Christ, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

Commitment Sunday Lunch Today!
Please join us for a special time of fellowship, lunch
and live music by the Beyhan Trio
in Kaseman Hall following worship .

We welcome and thank the Beyhan Trio.
Rifat Eskenazi (drummer)
Beyhan Trock (guitar/vocal)
John Abrahams (bass/vocal)

Thanks to our worship helpers today!
Liturgist: Donna Perry
Digital Host: Dan Hockensmith
Welcome Table: Mary Wallace

Welcome to Rockville United Church!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We trust that you will find RUCto be a welcoming and engaging place to explore the life of faith within a communitythat honors each person's spiritual journey. We encourage you to ask questions, visit ourwebsite, and share your contact information at the welcome table near the front doors. I hope to greet you personally following worship, and invite you to contact me.

Blessings,
Rev. Jennifer Knutsen
jennifer@rockvilleunitedchurch.org

Our complimentary Wi-Fi network is **RUC Mesh**. The password is **heavenly**.

Please Scan Me To Give To RUC.

RUC Staff

Rev. Jennifer R. Knutsen, Senior Pastor
Rev. Guy S. Johnson, Associate Pastor
Jim Levy, Director of Music
Dalia Marciano, Administrative Coordinator
Cha'Mia Holloman, Communications Coordinator
Caitlin Vrendenburg, Nursery Coordinator
Juan Mendez, Sexton

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(Office Hours: Wed, Fri—10am to 3pm or by appointment)

Ecumenical † Just Peace † Open & Affirming † More Light