

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY**

**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**October 25, 2020**

**Gathering**

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Sweet Hour of Prayer"

Arr. Robert Hughes

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THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Gather together to hear stories of faith and courage.

Listen for the ways God has acted among us.

**Our ancestors in the faith listened for God's word.**

**They dared to believe God's promises.**

Leaders like Moses and Paul saw evidence of God's work.

They believed they were face-to-face with God's truth.

**They looked beyond the present moment.**

**They lived for dreams not yet realized.**

Many felt God's love in knowing Jesus.

They experienced a new relationship with neighbors.

**We have come seeking community centered in Jesus.**

**We want to feel God's presence as we worship.**

Let us worship God.

\*OPENING HYMN "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" Tune: NETTLETON

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace.**

**Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.**

**Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.**

**Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;**

**And I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.**

**Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God.**

**He, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!**

**Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.**

**Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;**

**Here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

Robert Robinson, 1758. Public Domain

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We are taught to love you, O God, with all of our heart.

**We confess that our allegiance is less than complete.**

We are taught to love you, O God, with all of our soul.

**We confess that we long to have our own way.**

We are taught to love you, O God, with all of our mind.

**We confess that our thoughts are seldom so pure.**

We are taught to love our neighbors, as we love ourselves.

**We confess preference for ourselves being first.**

God have mercy upon us as we make our confession.

**Christ have mercy upon us and forgive our sin.**

*(A time for personal confession)* Let All God's people say: **Amen**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

## ***Listening to the Word***

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

CEB

As you yourselves know, brothers and sisters, our visit with you wasn't a waste of time. <sup>2</sup> On the contrary, we had the courage through God to speak God's good news in spite of a lot of opposition, although we had already suffered and were publicly insulted in Philippi, as you know. <sup>3</sup> Our appeal isn't based on false information, the wrong motives, or deception. Rather, we have been examined and approved by God to be trusted with the good news, and that's exactly how we speak. We aren't trying to please people, but we are trying to please God, who continues to examine our hearts. <sup>5</sup> As you know, we never used flattery, and God is our witness that we didn't have greedy motives. <sup>6</sup> We didn't ask for special treatment from people—not from you or from others— <sup>7</sup> although we could have thrown our weight around as Christ's apostles. Instead, we were gentle with you like a nursing mother caring for her own children. <sup>8</sup> We were glad to share not only God's good news with you but also our very lives because we cared for you so much.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL

Matthew 22:34-46

CEB

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had left the Sadducees speechless, they met together. <sup>35</sup> One of them, a legal expert, tested him. <sup>36</sup> “Teacher, what is the greatest commandment in the Law?”

<sup>37</sup> He replied, “*You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, and with all your mind.* <sup>38</sup> This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup> And the second is like it: *You must love your neighbor as you love yourself.* <sup>40</sup> All the Law and the Prophets depend on these two commands.”

<sup>41</sup> Now as the Pharisees were gathering, Jesus asked them, <sup>42</sup> “What do you think about The Messiah, the Christ? Whose son is he?”

“David’s son,” they replied. <sup>43</sup> He said, “Then how is it that David, inspired by the Holy Spirit, called him Lord when he said, <sup>44</sup> *The Lord said to my lord, ‘Sit at my right side until I turn your enemies into your footstool’?* <sup>45</sup> If David calls him Lord, how can he be David’s son?”

<sup>46</sup> Nobody was able to answer him. And from that day forward nobody dared to ask him anything.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

“Simple! Love God, love neighbor”

Jim Musgrave

## ***Responding to God***

## \*AFFIRMATION

Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## \*HYMN

“The Lord Is God”

Tune: AZMON

**The Lord is God, the Lord alone! Give honor, thanks, and praise to God, the maker of all things and giver of our days.**

**With all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and might, O people, love the Lord your God, the source of truth and light.**

**At night or day, at home, away, together and apart, O children, take these holy words and keep them in your heart.**

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## PRAYER CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER/ LORD'S PRAYER

## *Going Forth to Serve*

\*HYMN

“Love the Lord Your God”

Tune: GREAT COMMANDMENT

**Love the Lord your God with all your heart.  
Love the lord your God with all your soul.  
Love the Lord you God with all your mind.  
Love the Lord your God with all that you are.**

Jean and Jim Strathdee, 1991. © Desert Flower Music. Reprinted under OneLicense #A-734832

\*WORDS OF DISMISSAL

Now to the One who is able to keep you from falling, and to make you stand without shame in the presence of God's glory with rejoicing, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, power, and authority, before all time and now and forever. **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

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# Church Notes

## RESPONSIVE READER

This week we would like to thank Ann Rinehart for her participation as the Responsive Reader. Would you like to be a responsive reader during a recorded worship service? We can use one or two people from the same household. Only your voice is recorded and singing is optional. Please call (304 768-4141) or email the church office ([rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com)) if you are interested.



## BLUESTONE CAMP FUNDRAISER

It's been a hard year for camps all across the country, and Bluestone Camp & Retreat is no exception. The Friends of Bluestone are working hard to create income to maintain the camp this year, and you can help! They have joined efforts with SaveAround Coupon Books for a win-win fundraiser -- you pay \$20 for a coupon book (good now through the end of 2021) and half goes to Bluestone. After you use 3-5 coupons, you've paid yourself back that \$20 investment, and from there on it's pure savings -- and you have the pleasure of knowing you also provided needed capital for Bluestone! What's not to love about that?

Buying the books is easy. Please contact Scott Hamilton at [wshamilton@yahoo.com](mailto:wshamilton@yahoo.com) or 304-746-5457 H or contact the church office.

## MEMBERS WISHING TO BLESS RLPC'S MINISTRY FINANCIALLY

With the fact that we are not coming together for worship, many of you who have generously given to the ministry of RLPC may want to continue your gifts to the church. There are several ways that you may donate a gift to the church. By logging onto the church website at [www.rlpc.org](http://www.rlpc.org) you can give through PayPal. Also, there is a mailbox outside the choir room where you can drop your offering or send it by mail. A prayer of dedication will be included in the Prayers of the People. Thank you for your support of our missions.

# Prayer List

To add/remove/correct names on the prayer list,  
please call the church office (768-4141) or email [rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com](mailto:rocklakepreschurch@gmail.com)

We wish to send prayers to the people in California and the Western U.S. Region affected by the wildfires.

## Prayers for Concerns – Our friends and neighbors and their families

Merrily Bailey	Margie Gumowski	Joy Ratcliff
Day and Gene Bishop	Brad Harkins	James Straight family
Jo Clark*	Addilyn Hardin	Family of Geoffe Lake on the occasion of his death
Mary Anne Estill	Tre' Hardin	Family of Bob Weaver on the occasion of his death
Tory Fenniger	Juanita Hefner	
Lee Ann Goff	Linda and Rob Hunt	
Nan Goodman*	Cheryl Morgan	
Bogan "Danny" Gumowski	John Oakes	

## **Prayers for our Military**

Brett Baker	Brent Bishop	Evan Chaney
Jeff Barker	Steve Cash	

All who are serving, who have been injured and the families who have lost someone in combat; those who live and serve on the Korean Peninsula and other nations in that region of the world; our troops facing terrorist attacks.

**Prayers for those in Senior Residential Centers** - Cliff Asbury, Kanawha Place; Betty Berry, Edgewood Summit; Barbara Shriver, Sweetbriar

**Prayers for those at home** - Reva Asbury, Jeanette Bates, Bonnie Cheely, Mary Jane Hamrick, Anita McCormick, Anita Wehrmann

\*Added to Prayer List this week

**Prayers for Pollen8** in their ministry for drug addiction.

**Prayer List for Churches:** Philippi Presbyterian Church; Pineville Presbyterian Church; Mathakwaini Church Dispensary (Mah-THAH-kwab-ENN'nay); Thegene Parish (They-GEN'gay)