

Rock Lake Presbyterian Church  
Celebrating 71 years of "Shining Christ's Light"

September 19, 2021  
Email: rocklakepreschurc  
@gmail.com  
website: www.rlpc.org



***Due to recent CDC Guidelines, we strongly urge you to wear a mask whether or not you have been vaccinated.***

Welcome to Rock Lake Presbyterian Church.  
We are happy to have you worship with us.

Here are a few tips to help you participate:

"\*" Invites all who are able to stand.

**Bold type invites reading or singing by the congregation.**

*Italic type invites silent reading by the congregation.*

Large print hymns are available. See usher for information.

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

**17<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Pentecost**

**September 19, 2021**

**Gathering**

THE CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP

WELCOME

THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PRELUDE:

"Who Can Satisfy My Soul Like You?"

Arr. Carol Tornquist

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

**We come because we seek to abide in Christ.**

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

**We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.**

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

**We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.**

We gather to worship God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

**May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.**

\*OPENING HYMN #839

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine!"

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, you have bound us together in this bundle of life. May your glory and love give us grace to see and understand how our lives depend upon the courage, the industry, the honesty, and the integrity of our fellow humans; that we may be mindful of their needs, grateful for their faithfulness, and faithful in our responsibilities to them. That we might see all as you do, as beloved. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

OPENING OURSELVES TO GOD

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION:

**Gracious and loving God, open our hearts so that we are able to admit to you the fullness of our lives – that which is beautiful and good, and that which is hurtful and hateful. We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We cast the first stone. We do not turn to you as the source of our healing. Forgive us we pray. Forgive our sin and empower us to be imitators of Christ in love and service.**

*(A moment of personal reflection)*

And all of God's people said, **Amen**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

RESPONSE Hymn #587

"Alleluia!"

# ***Listening to the Word***

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Blessed God, who caused all Holy scriptures to be written for our learning; Help us to hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior, Jesus. Amen**

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 1

NRSV

- <sup>1</sup> Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
<sup>2</sup> but their delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law they meditate day and night.  
<sup>3</sup> They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper.  
<sup>4</sup> The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away.  
<sup>5</sup> Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;  
<sup>6</sup> for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

John 15:1-8

NRSV

**15** "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup> He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes<sup>[a]</sup> to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup> You have already been cleansed<sup>[b]</sup> by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup> Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup> I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup> Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup> If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup> My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become<sup>[c]</sup> my disciples.

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

"Life on the Vine"

Rev. Sharon Gearing

# ***Responding to God***

\*HYMN #796

"We Come to You for Healing, Lord"

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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.**

## JOYS & CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER/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.**

## *Going Forth to Serve*

\*Hymn #612

"We Praise You, O God"

\*WORDS OF DISMISSAL

**...Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.**

\*POSTLUDE

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## *Church Notes*

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS FROM THE CONGREGATION**

If you would like to share a Joy or Concern, we would like to hear it. In order to hear it, please raise your hand, and a microphone will be brought to you.

### **USHER**

We would like to thank our Usher this Sunday, Ron Rogillio.

### **LITURGIST**

We welcome Karen Cash as the Liturgist this week.

### **LITURGISTS NEEDED**

Now that we have returned to in-person worship, we need to re-populate our liturgist rotation list. If you are able to serve in worship this way, we have a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the Sanctuary.

### **BRIDGEVIEW FOOD PROGRAM**

The Bridgeview Food program has started back up. We are in need of a coordinator and volunteers who are able to help put together the food bags. Food items can be dropped off at the church during office hours (9-noon Monday through Friday).

### **RLPC'S RETURN TO IN PERSON WORSHIP GUIDELINES**

***Due to recent CDC Guidelines, we strongly urge you to wear a mask whether or not you have been vaccinated.***

We plan to continue streaming our worship through YouTube and Facebook for those unable to attend in person.

A note from your Nominating Committee...

We still seek two nominees for the 2024 session class, and a nominee for the 2023 session class.

Is the Holy Spirit's still, small voice calling you to get involved? Have you served on session in the PAST, but haven't recently?

If the Lord is calling you to action, BE **BOLD!** Call one of the nominating committee members listed below for information.

If you have a person in mind who would be I-D-E-A-L, won't you share that name with us?

And please pray for those we have contacted, and for us as we seek to discern God's will for this part of Christ's body.

Your nominating committee,

**Hilda Alsop 304-768-8496**

Barb Clark 304-206-2131

**Ron Rogillio 304-541-1243**

Ken Schmidt 304-881-2408

# ***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)

## **Prayers of Joy**

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

Merrily Bailey	Tre' Hardin	Joy Ratcliff
Day and Gene Bishop	Brad Harkins	Chris Rogillio
Arica Blessing*	John Haynes	Ron Rogillio
Jennifer Fisher Braden	Juanita Hefner	Ruggie Rutledge*
Keyleigh Carruthers	Amy Jo Hickey	Michelle Smith
Erin "Nikki" Childers	Carol Hill	Susan Spurgeon
Barbara Clark	Joe Layne	Ike Taylor
Amiel Cooper	Karter Azalea Lee	Lauren Thomas
Tory Fenniger	Betty Oakes	Ellie Grace Washington
Bogan "Danny" Gumowski	Marcia Obukowicz	Johnny Witt
Jordan Hamill	Jackie Pauley	
Addilyn Hardin	Abby Poling	

### **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; Reva Asbury, Kanawha City; Betty Berry, Edgewood Summit

**Prayers for those at home** - Jeanette Bates, Bonnie Cheely, Anita Wehrmann

**Prayer List for Churches:** Kanawha United Presbyterian Church, Charleston: Smithers Presbyterian Church; St. Marys Presbyterian Church; Gathuthi Church (GAH-THO-THEE); Thegenge Parish (They-GEN'gay)

\*Added to Prayer List this week





Sunday, October 3rd  
4:00 pm

Little Creek Park -- Shelter #2

- ❖ Fun, games, and special music!
- ❖ Bring your own meal & dessert
- ❖ Drinks will be provided

**Everyone is invited!**