

# WORSHIP SERVICE

Northampton Presbyterian Church

*Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost*

*November 19, 2023*

*10:00 AM*

**PRELUDE** *(Corinne Kauermann, violin & Kevin Kauermann, cello)*

*Butterfly Waltz*

arr. Kevin Kauermann

## **WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Christian Life Groups (Israel and Palestine), today following the worship service.
- Service of Giving Thanks, today at 3 PM at Newtown Friends.
- Preschool Board, Monday (11/20) at 7 PM.
- Session Meeting, Tuesday (11/21) at 7 PM.
- Women's Breakfast, Wednesday (11/22) at 9 AM at Manny's.
- Coming soon: Commitment Sunday & Hanging of the Greens (12/3).

# RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The time for harvest is close at hand. What have you done with the gifts God has given you?

**MANY: We have brought our gifts to the house of the Lord.**

ONE: Praise God for the gifts and for opportunities for service that they represent.

**MANY: We praise God for all the ways in which our lives have been blessed.**

ONE: Generous God, accept our gifts and our lives this day.

**MANY: Loving God, accept our praise and gratitude. AMEN.**

# **HYMN**

*Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!*

*DARWALL'S 148TH*

**Come sing, O church, in joy!**

**Come join, O church, in song!**

**For Christ the Lord has led us**

**Through the ages long!**

**In bold accord,**

**Come celebrate the journey now**

**And praise the Lord!**

**Long years have come and gone,  
And still God reigns supreme,  
Empowering us to catch the vision,  
Dream the dream!**

**In bold accord,  
Come celebrate the journey now  
And praise the Lord!**

**Let courage be our friend;**

**Let wisdom be our guide,**

**As we in mission**

**Magnify the Crucified!**

**In bold accord,**

**Come celebrate the journey now**

**And praise the Lord!**

**Come sing, O church, in joy!  
Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has triumphed  
O'er the ages long!**

**In bold accord,  
Come celebrate the journey now  
And praise the Lord!**

# RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ONE: There is a richness here – a gorgeous, flowing richness of unending abundance. But that doesn't mean that it guides us. Our ways – within and beyond our control – speak of something different: of lack, of fear, of something other than an acknowledgement of God's endless and beautiful river of grace.

**MANY: But how do we step into that river? Do we step into it with trust? Do we trust the current of God's generous gifts?**



ONE: Or do we run from the river? For when we run, when we turn away from God's gifts in distrust, we lose the refreshment and joy of that richness... and something else reigns.

**MANY: Then, what's left?**

ONE: Now is the time – the time to consider our distrust of God's abundance. Now is the time – the time to begin something new. Now is the time – the time to trust... differently.

*We pause for a moment of silent, personal confession.*

# RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

ONE: We haven't always trusted, God.

**MANY: But, today, we acknowledge the richness of your blessings. We see your flowing river of love and we wade into your grace.**

ONE: There is a richness – a richness that says “yes” eternally. This richness forgives and gives even more.

**MANY: We know this forgiveness. And we thank you, God. Amen!**

# HYMN

*Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me*      *GLORY TO GOD*

**Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**World without end, without end. Amen**

**World without end, without end. Amen.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

*1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

**SERMON**

*What's Right with Us?*

Rev. Judith A. Dwyer

# HYMN

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

*BEACH SPRING*

**God, whose giving knows no ending,  
From your rich and endless store,  
Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,  
Costly cross, grave's shattered door:  
Gifted by you, we turn to you,  
Offering up ourselves in praise;  
Thankful song shall rise forever,  
Gracious donor of our days.**

**Skills and time are ours for pressing  
Toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
All at peace in health and freedom,  
Races joined, the church made one.  
Now direct our daily labor,  
Lest we strive for self alone.  
Born with talents, make us servants  
Fit to answer at your throne.**

**Treasure, too, you have entrusted,  
Gain through powers your grace conferred:  
Ours to use for home and kindred,  
And to spread the gospel word.  
Open wide our hands in sharing,  
As we heed Christ's ageless call,  
Healing, teaching, and reclaiming,  
Serving you by loving all.**

# **MOMENT OF GRATITUDE**

Diana Reingruber

# **CALL FOR THE OFFERING**

*(Scan the QR Code to give online →)*

# **OFFERTORY ANTHEM**

*In Everything Give Thanks*



Joseph Martin



# **DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

# THANKSGIVING LITANY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**MANY:** But, today, we acknowledge the richness of your blessings.  
We see your flowing river of love and we wade into your grace.

**ONE:** Give thanks to the Lord who is good.

**MANY:** **God's love is everlasting.**

**ONE:** Come, let us praise God joyfully.

**MANY:** **Let us come to God with thanksgiving.**

**ONE:** For the good world; for things great and small, beautiful and  
awesome; for seen and unseen splendors;

**MANY:** **Thank you, God.**

ONE: For human life; for talking and moving and thinking together; for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For work to do and strength to work; for the comradeship of labor; for exchanges of good humor and encouragement;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For lifelong love; for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared; for confidences kept in love;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For family; for living together and eating together; for family amusements and family pleasures;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For children; for their energy and curiosity; for their brave play and startling frankness; for their sudden sympathies;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For the young; for their high hopes; for their irreverence toward worn-out values; for their search for freedom; for their solemn VOWS;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For growing up and growing old; for wisdom deepened by experience; for rest in leisure; and for time made precious by its passing;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For your help in times of doubt and sorrow; for healing our diseases; for preserving us in temptation and danger;

**MANY: Thank you, God.**

ONE: For the church into which we have been called; for the good news we receive by Word and Sacrament; for our life together in the Lord;

**MANY: We praise you, God.**

ONE: For your Holy Spirit, who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love; who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship;

**MANY: We praise you, God.**

ONE: Above all, O God, for your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died and lives again for our salvation; for our hope in him; and for the joy of serving him;

**MANY: We thank and praise you, Eternal God, for your everlasting love. In the name of the One who taught us to pray, we offer this 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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

# **HYMN**

*Now Thank We All Our God*

*NUN DANKET*

**Now thank we all our God  
With heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done,  
In whom his world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms,  
Has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love,  
And still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God  
Through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts  
And blessed peace to cheer us;  
To keep us in God's grace,  
And guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills  
In this world and the next.**



**All praise and thanks to God,  
Who reins in highest heaven,  
To Father and to Son  
And Spirit now be given:  
The one eternal God,  
Whom heaven and earth adore,  
The God who was, and is,  
And shall be evermore.**

# **THANKSGIVING BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *(Andy Chen & Jes Stehr)*

*Amazing Grace*

arr. Lloyd Larson

## WORSHIP NOTES:

- The **Call to Worship** is written by Nancy C. Townley and posted on the Worship Connection page of the Ministry Matters website. Visit there for other great suggestions for worship on November 13, 2011.
- The **Prayer of Confession** and **Assurance of Pardon** are from *The Time of Richness: Service Prayers for the Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost* was written by the Rev. Kaji R. Spellman, and posted on the United Church of Christ website.
- The **Thanksgiving Litany** is from the *Book of Common Worship, 1993*. Posted on the website of the Annandale United Methodist Church. <http://www.annandale-umc.org/filerequest/2687>
- The **Thanksgiving Benediction** is written by Joe Sherer pastor of the Mount Joy Mennonite Church and posted on *A Daily Prayer*. <http://adailyprayer.wordpress.com/2007/11/16/strangers-in-this-world/>
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