



GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GREETING, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPENING PRAYER

Good morning, Lord. We welcome this day, for it is a gift from you. In this hour of gathered worship, make us more faithful together than we could be on our own, and use us to reflect your light, for there are so many who need to know of your grace. Walk with us, and show us your way, for we would follow our Savior and Lord Jesus. In his name we gather and pray, Amen.

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP Mike Morrison

ONE: Keep silence in God's presence; the day of the Lord is at hand!

ALL: Let us not fall asleep, but live as children of light.

ONE: The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast.

ALL: We watch and wait in faith, hope, and love.

*HYMN:

We Gather Together

No. 336

¹We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
sing praises to his name, he forgets not his own.

³We all do extol thee, our leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

CALL TO CONFESSION

God's love has destined us not for wrath, but rather for salvation. Therefore, let us confess our sins to the One who is eager to save. Let us offer our prayers, first silently, then spoken. (*Silent Prayer*)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You adorn us with the armor of light, but we hide ourselves in darkness. You trust us with the message of grace, but we bury that treasure in fear. Forgive us, merciful Lord, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Children of light: because we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ, we need not fear— for Jesus lived for us, he died for us, he was raised for us, even now he prays for us. Believe the promise of your baptism: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

MOMENT WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

The Little Yellow Leaf by Carin Berger

ANTHEM

Holy, Holy, Holy

Arr. Kevin McChesney
WPC Handbell Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

25:¹⁴ 'For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless servant, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

RESPONDING TO AND SEALING OF THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: The 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 Spirit, 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 Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. 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.

*HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

No. 716

¹ 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, of-fering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

³ 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.

BENEDICTION

Sisters and brothers, God in Christ has given us the glorious treasure of eternal life. Do not leave this treasure hidden in fear, but rather risk your own security for the reward of faithfulness, enjoying its abundance with everyone.

May God, whose coming we eagerly await, keep you fervent in faith, steadfast in hope, and constant in love. And may the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be among you and remain with you always.

POSTLUDE

Paeon Exultant

Frederick Stanley Smith

**Congregation standing, if comfortable to do so.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

The congregation is asked to pray for the members and friends listed each week, and those listed are asked to pray for our congregation. This week, please pray for **Marjorie Springston, Donna Leach, Pearl Campbell, Jay & Gloria Olson, Scott & Linda Parker, Rita Parkerson, Mildred Pate, and Todd, Golden, Jaylen, Zane & Memphis Puckett, and for all the families who have lost or are affected by job losses due to Covid-19, for all those sheltering in place, and for all the dedicated individuals serving on the front-line.**

Arkansas Presbytery requests prayers for **Church Nursery Workers** and for **First Presbyterian Church** of Rogers.

REMEMBER **Our Country, our Leaders, our military, Erik Knebel and Adam Howell, the Eose and Ekema families in Cameroon, and Missionaries Jeff and Christi Boyd, Congo.**

MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN LONG-TERM RETIREMENT & HEALTH-CARE FACILITIES

Lake Hamilton Health & Rehab **Marjorie Springston**
West Shores.....**Rev. Jim Chaffin, Jim & Sybil Dowds, Juanita Winn, Ann Wood**
GHEC, 372 Old Brundage Rd., H. S. AR 71913 **Donna Leach**

NOVEMBER THRU JANUARY 2021 dollar giving is designated to purchase ceramic heaters for Jackson House to distribute to individuals with heating needs for the winter.

LIMITED IN-PERSON WORSHIP: The Session is asking that you make reservations for attendance to the **November 22** worship service by calling the church office **Monday, November 16 through noon Thursday, November 19.** The In-Person worship will be limited to 50 individuals. **YOU MUST REGISTER** by calling or e-mailing the church office prior to noon Thursday. **Reservations must be made every week by everyone.**

PLEASE REMEMBER for safety's sake at in-person worship that you wear your mask, disinfect on entering and on leaving the building, maintain a six-foot distance, sit only where the usher seats you, dismiss quickly and quietly by usher after the postlude without removing your mask until outdoors, and move outdoors without lingering in the narthex or the doorway. Thank you!!

VOLUNTEERS WILL BE WELCOMED to help with Advent decorations in the sanctuary and erecting the Mitten Tree on Monday, November 23, at 10:30 a.m.