



PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
of **MADISON**



November 19, 2023

Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

ORDER of WORSHIP

THE GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements

* Call to Worship

L: In the midst of meaninglessness,

P: You call us to meaning, O God.

L: In the midst of divisiveness,

P: You call us to community through Christ.

L: Out of our brokenness,

P: You call us to wholeness and new life in the Spirit.

L: With praise and thanksgiving, let us worship God.

(The music for the hymns is in the back of the bulletin.)

* Opening Hymn

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

(v1, v3)

Prayer of Confession

Trusting God, you placed your mission in our hands and gave us gifts to accomplish amazing things in Jesus' name. We confess sometimes we've taken credit for what your love has done. Sometimes we've called our own desires your will. Sometimes we've stepped back and let others carry responsibilities. Forgive us when we've failed to honor your trust in us. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

(A moment of silence is observed.)

Assurance of Pardon

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

P: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

*** Congregational Response**

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful; In the Lord I will rejoice!

*Look to God: do not be afraid. Lift up your voices;
the Lord is near.*

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Passing of the Peace

PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

Children's Message

Prayer for Illumination

O Lord, your word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, Amen.

First Scripture Reading

I Thessalonians 5: 5-11

5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. **6** So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, **7** for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. **8** But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. **9** For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, **10** who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. **11** Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Second Scripture Reading

Matthew 25: 14-30

14 “For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then 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.’ 21 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 22 And 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.’ 23 His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ 24 Then 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, 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ 26 But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For 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. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Sermon

Risking Investment

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***Affirmation of Faith**

from *The Apostle's 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.

The Gifts of Our Tithes and Offering

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

***Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ all people here below;

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise Holy Spirit evermore;

Praise Triune God whom we adore.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amen!

***Prayer of Dedication and Thanksgiving**

Prayers of the People

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 LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD

*** Closing Hymn**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(v1, v4)

Benediction

***Postlude**

*As our time of worship comes to an end, our time of service begins.
We are the church, sent out in Jesus' name,
to be Christ's body in the world.*

WORSHIP LEADER

Kathleen Underwood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BOOK TALK- NOVEMBER 19 WITH LOCAL AUTHOR, MICHELLE CAMERON, AT PCMADISON TO DISCUSS HER NEWEST HISTORICAL FICTION BOOK - *Babylon: A Novel of Jewish Captivity*.

This event has been cancelled in light of the current situation.

VISIONING AND DISCERNMENT-SHARING OUR STORIES

We continue the church's discernment process with another opportunity to participate. This next step provides the occasion to gather together in the after-worship coffee hour, in committees or groups, or by filling out a survey to share your stories -- your experiences and memories of the past --as well your hopes for the future. This is a chance to gain insight into where we would like our church to be in mission and ministry as we look ahead to welcoming a new pastor. Today is another opportunity to share stories in the after-worship coffee hour.

HELP FILL IFP THANKSGIVING BASKETS

PCM is continuing to collect food items for the Interfaith Food Pantry's Thanksgiving program. Needed food items include: canned fruit and vegetables; stuffing; instant potatoes; canned beans – pinto, red or white kidney; pasta; rice (1# or 2# bags); and soups –especially hearty varieties.

Frozen turkeys, large chickens, and hams are also being collected. Frozen turkeys can be placed in the freezer section of the Parlor refrigerator; other meats can be put in the main section. Thank you for your continued support of PCM's Love Our Neighbor Challenge.

CHRISTMAS IN NOVEMBER

The Christmas tree in the narthex has ornaments with two opportunities to provide gifts for our neighbors through Operation Holiday and the Madison Eagle Christmas Fund. Operation Holiday works with a number of local organizations to provide gifts to children – we have selected three children currently living at the Homeless Solutions shelter. The Madison Eagle Christmas Fund now collects cash gifts that are used to provide gift cards from local stores to families living in Madison. The ornaments provide all the details.

Wrapped gifts should be returned to the narthex or the church office by Sunday, December 3 with the ornament attached; cash gifts can be placed in the offering plate any Sunday or sent to the office by Monday, December 4. Thank you for sharing the Christmas spirit and helping to make the holiday bright!

SING WE NOW OF CHRISTMAS-PCM's 1ST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING AND CAROL SING - SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3RD AT 4:30 PM

You're invited to our 1st Annual Christmas Tree Lighting and Carol Sing! All are welcome to join us as we gather outside the sanctuary for a joyous time of carol singing. Hot chocolate, coffee, and treats will be provided after the singing as the Christmas lights of the trees outside the church are turned on.

Anna D'Achille, PCM's Director of Music, and Michael Callahan, PCM's Director of Handbell Choir, will lead us in singing.

Come, bring a friend, and join us as we celebrate this season of love and light, hope and joy, and our prayers for peace in the world.

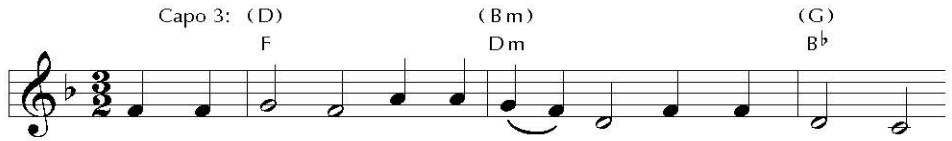
QUARTERS FOR RAMP

Keep stacking the quarters in our RAMP collection tube! Just like a single food item has positive impact so does a single QUARTER. Our quarter tube was overflowing recently, with a total of \$50, so with the Mission Committee's 100% match, our 2023 total is now \$340. Can we get to \$420 by the end of the year?

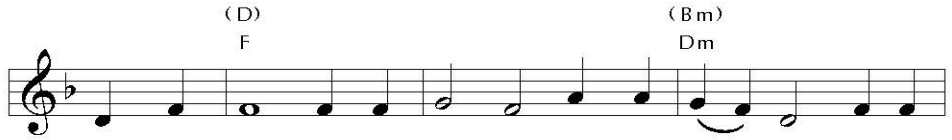
PRAYER LIST

- Kathleen, mother of Jen Kakalettris Boyar, recovering at home after a successful surgery to remove a brain tumor
- Hector, recovering from surgery, and his wife, Liv
- All those for whom this holiday season brings reminders of loss and sadness
- Safe travel for all those on the roads, rails, seas, and air in the upcoming days of holiday celebrations
- The lives lost and those injured in the Maine shooting
- The escalation of war in Israel and Gaza, the increasing loss of lives, and for families waiting for word of the hostages being held; all who are mourning
- All those dealing with division, hatred, prejudice and racism here and around the world, especially the increase of violence being experienced by Jews and Muslims since the escalation of war in Israel and Gaza
- William Christopher, for a full recovery from hip surgery and Donna, his daughter and caregiver
- Eduard Mostert, recovering after a serious bike accident
- Deborah, for successful back surgery
- Kiarnan and all those struggling with mental health issues
- Philip, suffering from Parkinson's, and his wife Ruth
- Peter, recovering from open-heart surgery, and his wife Judy
- Larry and Martie, undergoing treatment for colon cancer
- Brian and continued success with migraine treatment
- Deven who is undergoing cancer treatment
- Karen, who is living with many serious health issues, and her son, Ryan, her caregiver
- Steve Genzer for continued success with his eye and ribs
- Liv for overall strong, good health
- Len battling cancer
- Kara who is continuing with chemo treatments
- Ed facing a long recovery after a broken leg
- Ben, now back in school after treatment for cancer
- All those experiencing losses of life and property
- All those dealing with job loss and job insecurity
- The people of the Ukraine in this ongoing time of war
- Peace for the sake of all people in the world

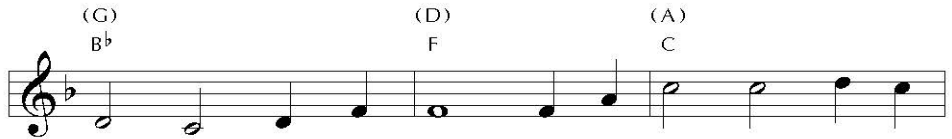
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending 716



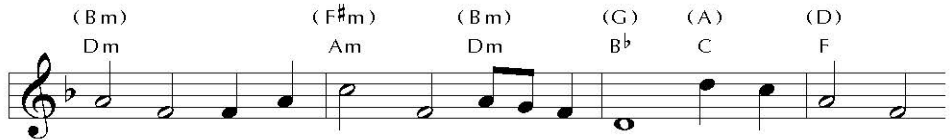
1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for press - ing toward the goals of
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your



end - less store, na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly
 Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es
 grace con - ferred: ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to



cross, grave's shat - tered door: gift - ed by you, we turn
 joined, the church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly
 spread the gos - pel word. O - pen wide our hands in



to you, of - fer - ing up our - selves in praise; thank - ful song shall
 la - bor, lest we strive for self a - lone. Born with tal - ents,
 shar - ing, as we heed Christ's age - less call, heal - ing, teach - ing,



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, serv - ing you by lov - ing all.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

This text on stewardship was one of about 450 submissions in a search for such hymns conducted by the Hymn Society of America in 1961. These words are well grounded by their musical setting, an early American shape note tune named for a Baptist church in Harris County, Georgia.

687 Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

(Psalm 90)

1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, our
 2 Be - neath the shad - ow of thy throne thy
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight are

hope for years to come, our shel - ter from the
 saints have dwelt se - cure; suf - fi - cient is thine
 earth re - ceived its frame, from ev - er - last - ing
 like an eve - ning gone, short as the watch that

storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
 arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
 thou art God, to end - less years the same.
 ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

- 5 Time, like an ever rolling stream,
 bears all our years away;
 they fly forgotten, as a dream
 dies at the opening day.
- 6 Our God, our help in ages past,
 our hope for years to come,
 be thou our guard while life shall last,
 and our eternal home.

Many people sing this hymn unaware that it paraphrases Psalm 90, partly because this text speaks so immediately to the human condition. Since the middle of the 19th century, it has usually been joined to this tune named for the London parish where the composer was organist.

**WELCOMING ALL
AS A LOVING COMMUNITY
CENTERED IN CHRIST,
GROWING IN FAITH,
SERVING IN JOY, AND
LIVING IN GRATITUDE**

Staff

Jacqui Van Vliet
Pastor

Alexandra Argiris
Office Assistant

Anna D'Achille
Director of Musical Arts

Christine Antico
Bookkeeper

Michael Callahan
Student Ministries & Outreach

Eddie Ramirez
Custodian

Worship
Sunday Service 10:15 am

Session

Becky Moody, Clerk

Corinne Bowen
Stephanie Haedrich

Jim Burnet
Mary-Anna Holden

Jennifer Groller
Megan Peterson

The Presbyterian Church of Madison is part of the PC(USA) Denomination
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