



# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

25th Sunday after Pentecost | November 14, 2021

*\*Indicates where it is appropriate, but not necessary, to stand.  
All speak words in **boldface**.*

## ❖ Called by God We Gather ❖

### GATHERING MUSIC

*(Gather and greet each other in joy.)*

### WELCOME, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gail Thomas

### CALLED TO WORSHIP IN RINGING THE TRINITY AND IN MUSIC

*(When the chimes toll, let us silently open our spirit to God's presence in our midst.)*

*God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending*

arr. Philip M. Young

### OPENING SENTENCES

Ed Carter & Rusty Russ, liturgists

From north to south, from east to west,

**God gathers us in.**

From cities and farms, from plenty and want,

**God gathers us in.**

From young to old, from every race and identity,

**God gathers us in.**

From those confident in their faith to those struggling to believe,

**God gathers us in.**

People of God, come now and worship the Lord!

### \*HYMN

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

*(vv. 1 & 3)*

***Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;***

***there is no shadow of turning with thee.***

***Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.***

***As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.***

*Refrain:*

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.**

*Refrain:*

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided.  
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923 P.D.

#### \*PRAYER OF PRAISE AND CONFESSION

Let us pray together:

#### **How good it is to praise your name, God of Creation!**

From the very first tale told around family tables  
to the last word written in the book of time,  
you tell us the story of your love and grace.  
From the foundation laid in Eden's valleys  
to the ever-open gates of the new Jerusalem,  
you show us your vision of life lived together.

#### **How good it is to praise your name, Savior of All!**

When those lies we've heard whispered become shouts, you come –  
speaking truth to our fearful hearts.  
Where we see scarcity, you reveal abundance,  
where we see strangers, you reveal neighbors, family.  
When differences distort our relationships, you come –  
gathering all your children to feast at table together.  
Where we would curate guests lists and manage table groups,  
you revel in the inevitable mess and awkwardness  
and even conflict in moving from "us and them" to "we."

#### **How good it is to praise your name, Spirit of Truth!**

When our stories exclude  
caring for others and the planet, you come –  
stirring us to review our choices and to try again.  
Come, Holy Spirit, enter the silence as we reflect.

*(Silent confession)*

O God; **forgive us.**

In letting go of the fears that only mislead us,

**may we feast and listen together –  
leaning into your way for the world.**

In setting aside false pride,

**may we reach out and uplift those in need.**

In turning from excluding the other,

**may we work together and serve the One who unites us all,  
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

\*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

Friends, no matter how many times it is said, it bears repeating:  
God loves us, God forgives us, God heals us, God restores us.  
We are set free to live new lives together in God's vision of love,  
with hope, grace, and joy.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Amen.**

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

*Great is Thy Faithfulness*

FAITHFULNESS

*Refrain:*

***Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!***

***Morning by morning, new mercies I see.***

***All I have needed thy hand hath provided.***

***Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!***

TEXT: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 MUSIC: William Marion Runyan, 1923 P.D.

❖ **To Hear God's Word of Grace** ❖

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:19-21, 25-33

ANTHEM

*Let the People Give Thanks*

P. Martin & L. Larson

Gail Thomas, Sue Anderson, Susan Pearse, Carol Partridge,  
Wayne Tillman, Ken Curry, Ed Carter; singers

Let the hungry give thanks; He is the bread. Let the thirsty give thanks; He is the dayspring. Let the orphan give thanks; He is father-eternal. Let the people give thanks to the Lord. Let the homeless give thanks; He is the refuge. Let the wand'ring give thanks; He is the shepherd. Let the grieving give thanks; He is their comfort. Let the people give thanks to the Lord. Let the people rejoice with songs of thanksgiving. Come, lift an offering of praise. Proclaim to the world God's wonderful mercies. He will supply every need. Let those in darkness give thanks to him; He is the light of the world. And let the weary give praise to God, He is the haven of rest. Let the captives bless His name; He's their deliverer. Alleluia, praise the Lord! People, give thanks to the Lord. Let the sinner give thanks; for He is the Savior, Let the weak give thanks; He's the tower of strength. Let the sick give their thanks; He's the great physician. Let the people give thanks to the Lord. Let the people rejoice with songs of thanksgiving. Come, lift an offering of praise. Proclaim to the world God's wonderful mercies. He will supply every need. Alleluia, sing alleluia! People give thanks to the Lord. Let the people give thanks to the Lord.

SERMON

"Places of the Heart"

Rev. Dr. Sid Batts

### ❖ To Respond in Faith with Gratitude ❖

PRAYERS FOR THE COMMUNITY AND THE WORLD

**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.**

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Stewardship Committee

Rusty Russ

LITANY OF COMMITMENT

The call of Christ is to willing, dedicated discipleship.  
Our discipleship is a manifestation of the new life we enter through baptism.  
Discipleship is both a gift and a commitment, an offering and a responsibility.  
We bear this out today as we bring forth the promises we are making to God and one another.

*(Continued)*

*(Sung seated)*

**Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days; let them flow in senseless praise;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.**

We have gathered as one congregation for worship today,  
reminding us of this truth:

There is one body and one Spirit,  
just as we were called to the one hope of our calling,

**one Lord, one faith, one baptism,  
one God and Father of all,  
who is above all and through all and in all.** Eph. 4:1-6

Together, we are commanded to love God with all that we are –  
heart, soul, mind, and strength. And we embody the love of God for the world  
in our words and deeds. Loving our neighbors as if they were our own kin,  
just as we were welcomed as children of God, siblings of Christ.

*(Sung seated)*

**Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for thee,  
swift and beautiful for thee.**

God's power is at work within us, and we know that God is able to accomplish  
far more abundantly than anything we can ask or even imagine. We see  
glimpses of that abundance when we gather to worship, to serve, to give.  
God does so much more through our shared ministry than any one person,  
any one household, any one committee could do.

The commitment cards that were mailed in throughout the month have been  
gathered and placed on the table. If you brought yours today, we would like  
to add it to the basket. As we sing the next verses, an usher will bring the  
basket to you. Simply raise your hand to let them know.

Each of these cards represents at least one conversation with God about  
generosity, trust, and growing as faithful stewards. Seeing all of them in a  
shared basket this morning serves as a reminder that we each belong to one  
another and that every household matters in our mission together.

*(Continued)*

(Sung seated)

**Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use every power as thou shalt choose,  
every power as thou shalt choose.**

**Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee,  
filled with messages from thee.**

Let us pray together.

Gracious God, creator of the world, giver of all that is good,

**bless the gifts and the pledges we bring to you today.**

These pledges represent our work, our hopes, and our dreams,

**and we offer them in thanksgiving for all we have received.**

May they be the first fruits of all we have,

**and not what we have left over.**

May we see these pledges as a sacred offering,

**and not a gift of obligation or exchange.**

May we use them wisely for your service,

**to reflect your love to this county and this world.**

May they move us to be more faithful disciples,

**and energize us for lives of generosity.**

In gratitude for the grace of God,

**in the warmth of God's hospitality,**

and in the spirit of the generosity embodied by Christ,

**We dedicate these pledges to the work of God.**

Thanks be to God!

**Alleluia! Amen.**

"Litany of Dedication for Stewardship Pledges," from *Call to Worship*, Volume 53.1, 2019, p. 118

## ❖ To Depart Blessed to Serve ❖

\*HYMN

*Take My Life*

HENDON

(vv. 5 & 6)

**Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.**

(Continued)

**Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.**

TEXT: Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874. MUSIC: H. A. César Malan, 1827. P.D.

\*BENEDICTION AND CHARGE

CLOSING MUSIC



Scan to Give

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