

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

Morning Worship..... Eleven o'clock

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

The Westminster Chimes

Opening Prayerfrom the 1906 Presbyterian Book of Common Worship

PreludeDillon J. Swanson
"Folk Tune" from Five Short Pieces..... Percy Whitlock

*Call to Worship.....Leigh Sackett
..... "The Church of the Open Door" by G.M. Maxwell
Out by the side of the broad highway, where the women and men go by
Busy with cares of the long workaday and weary when night is nigh.
There's a Temple that's built for the service of God,
A Haven of Rest for the poor.

*Opening Hymn 393 ES FLOG EIN KLEINS WALDVÖGELEIN
O Day of Rest and Gladness

*Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession
Almighty and most Merciful God: we have erred and strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. And there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare those who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of your Holy Name.

(Let us silently offer confessions that are individually ours to make.)

*Assurance of Pardon

*Gloria Patri WESTMINSTER ABBEY
Glory be to God the Father, Glory be to God the Son, Glory to the Holy Spirit, ever three and ever one. As it was in the beginning now forever. Amen!

*Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

Welcome and Opportunities for Discipleship

Minute for Mission Gina Dunnivant
Habitat for Humanity

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Lesson

Psalm 15(p. 485 in the pew Bible)
The grass withers and the flowers fade but the word of the Lord stands forever.
Amen.

Children's Time

Children's Worship follows immediately after the children's sermon. Children ages 4 through 1st Grade may leave for Children's Worship, an age-appropriate service.

Second Scripture Lesson

Exodus 25:1-9(p. 70 in the pew Bible)
This is the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley
A Haven of Rest

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Affirmation of Faith.....The Rev. Isabella Fagiani
.....from the Westminster Confession of Faith (1647)

The light of nature showeth that there is a God, who hath lordship and sovereignty over all; is good, and doeth good unto all; and is therefore to be feared, loved, praised, called upon, trusted in, and served with all the heart, and with all the soul, and with all the might. But the acceptable way of worshiping the true God is instituted by himself, and so limited by his own revealed will, that he may not be worshiped according to the imaginations or devices of men or any other way not prescribed in the Holy Scriptures. Religious worship is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; and to him alone.

*Hymn of Response 301 TWO OAKS
Let Us Build a House

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Call for the Offering

Gifts for the offering can be made by placing your offering in the plate as it is passed or by scanning the QR Code on the back of your bulletin with your smartphone. Visit rcpres.org and click "Give Now" to learn more.

Offertory The Sanctuary Choir
In Every Generation..... Carolyn Jennings

O God of all your people past, your grace is our salvation; your arms of love, their home secure, remain our habitation. We bring to you the praise they brought, we seek you as the saints have sought in every generation. Their joy in you, the joy we bring, rings thrilling in its blending; the Spirit who in them did sing to us new song is lending. That song in them, in us, is one, we raise it high, we send it on, the music never ending. In every generation the song is one; we send it on. O Saints to come, take up the strain and bless the Boundless Giver. Unbroken be the golden chain! Let not divisions sever. But safe in that dear dwelling place, and rich with that eternal grace, sing forever, sing on. Forever sing on, in every generation.

*Doxology..... OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him all creatures here below; praise him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Baptism

The Meaning of Baptism

Presentation: Erica, Andy, and Makenzie Bowes

Profession of Faith

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Baptism & Blessing

Welcome & Prayer

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*Closing Hymn 485 ENGELBERG
We Know That Christ is Raised

*Charge and Blessing

*Congregational Response THEMBA AMEN

*Postlude.....
Improvisation on "Engelberg"Dillon J. Swanson

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Children's Worship: Lisa and Lydia Goad

Acolytes: Grace Ward and Finley Biddle

CHURCH NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRAYER REQUESTS: Tom Alcock, Dawn Blakeman, Jackie Blakeman, Brendan Brown (Kathy and Les Brown's grandson), Beverly Day and family (friend of Camilla and Johnsey Cabaniss), the Lester & Lewis families (friends/neighbors of Frankie Doyle and Marilyn Martin), Susan Lindstrom, Megan Mallare (friend of Kathy Grove), Melissa Martin (friend of Lisa Boylan), Dave Owen-O'Quill, Garland Parry, Hugh Wellons, and all caregivers.

ONLINE GIVING If you prefer to give online you can either visit rcpres.org and press the "Give Now" button on the homepage or scan the QR code with your smartphone to go directly to the donation page.



This can be done as a one-time or an ongoing way to support our mission and ministry.

FELLOWSHIP DINNER – YOUTH FUNDRAISER Join the Youth of RCPC for one final Fellowship Dinner of the year on April 24 at 6:15 PM. The youth and their adults will be cooking up a baked potato bar for your enjoyment. All proceeds go to support summer trips! All generous donations are welcomed. Sign up by Tuesday at noon either online at rcpres.org/dinner or on the paper form in the Gathering Area.

MISSION PARTNER SUPPORT Each month, we are designating all cash and coin to one of our local mission partners. For the month of April, we are supporting the work of Habitat for Humanity. In 2023, Habitat for Humanity received \$3,000 in support from our church. Your generosity will encourage us to meet that amount in 2024. You can place your money in the offering plate or make an online gift using the QR code, noting that it is for Mission and making a note for Habitat for Humanity in the text box. As of April 14, we have collected \$898.76 for Habitat for Humanity.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY VOLUNTEER WORKDAYS This spring RCPC will once again partner with Habitat for Humanity by sponsoring two volunteer workdays. Our sponsored workdays will be Wednesday, April 24 from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM and Saturday, April 27 from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Sign up to volunteer online at tinyurl.com/RCPCHabitatVolunteer2024 or at the link in the This Week @ RCPC. Daily groups must be 12 volunteers or less. No experience is necessary, but all volunteers must be at least 16 years old. Habitat will provide all required tools and safety equipment, water, coffee, and snacks. Volunteers will need to provide their own lunch and a refillable water bottle, and work gloves are strongly advised. Dress for the weather and wear sturdy closed-toed shoes like hiking boots.

GRADUATE SUNDAY We'll celebrate all the graduates within our church family during worship on May 5. Please submit a picture of your graduate with their name and where they are graduating from to julie@rcpres.org by April 21 in order that we can celebrate them.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY Come worship with us on Children's Ministry Sunday, April 28 in both the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM services, both will take place in the Sanctuary. Our preschool, God Alive kids, and even some youth and adults will lead us as we praise our Lord Jesus for all the ways his light guides us from generation to generation! With the expansion of the area in front of the Chancel, we are able to expand the number of children participating in this year's worship. You are invited to join us after the 11:00 AM service for cookies and lemonade on the front lawn.

ALL RCPC PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN Bring yourself and your family members for a casual hike on Mill Mountain on Sunday, April 28, following the 11:00 AM worship service. Meet in the Mill Mountain parking lot around 12:45 PM. A bagged lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to Kaitlin Swanner at kaitlin.swanner@gmail.com by Monday, April 22nd so we can ensure we have a lunch for you, and please bring your own water. Save the date for our June PW event: A Poolside Party at Dawn Long's house on June 21, 5:30 PM

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS: April 7-May 12, 2024

• **The Seekers: Book Study - *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr**

In *Falling Upward*, Richard Rohr seeks to help readers understand the tasks of the two halves of life and to show them that those who have fallen, failed, or "gone down" are the only ones who understand "up." Most of us tend to think of the second half of life as largely about getting old, dealing with health issues, and letting go of life, but the whole thesis of this book is exactly the opposite. What looks like falling down can largely be experienced as "falling upward." In fact, it is not a loss but somehow actually a gain, as we have all seen with elders who have come to their fullness. The Seekers will study this book together as they contemplate how growth and transformation is for all of God's people, no matter where they are in life. Led by Nancy Ayling & David Dixon | Room 201

• **Discover RCPC** is a way to learn more about our life together as followers of Jesus. In these gatherings, we will get to know one another better. We will learn about how and why we worship and what is distinctive about being a Reformed Church. We will learn about how Presbyterians practice their life in covenant with each other, and we will learn the story specifically of the Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church: The Church of the Open Door.

Teacher: Andrew Whaley / Room: 202. April 14 - May 5

• **Parent is a Verb** class will continue throughout the spring! Led by Leigh Sackett, Wade Whitehead, & others | Room 102

THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE For several years, Second Presbyterian Church has sponsored conversations and Bible studies called "The Bible in Black and White," gathering people of diverse racial backgrounds for discussion of the scripture, to create opportunities for listening across differences and together encountering the Holy Spirit. This year, these studies are expanding to include members of Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church, 5th Avenue Presbyterian Church, and Hill Street Baptist Church. Joining members of Second Presbyterian Church and Loudon Avenue Christian Church, this study offers the opportunity for people from three historically black congregations to join with two predominantly white congregations to grow in our knowledge of one another and help bridge differences in race and story in our city. The pastors of all of the congregations will participate in leadership throughout the weeks of the study. Please plan to join us for this rich opportunity! Wednesdays in April at Noon at Second Presbyterian Church. Book: *Delivered into Covenant* by Walter Brueggemann

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS Join us on the front lawn of RCPC today at 2:00 PM for a blessing of the animals. Pets who are good in a crowd are welcome to join in person and for those pets who are a bit trickier to bring in person, we invite you to bring a picture of them! We'll give thanks for the way our furry friends help us to know and experience God's love and we'll bless each pet present in person or picture form.

BULLETIN COVERS Each week during our Generation to Generation series, our bulletin cover is modeled after a bulletin cover from the 100 years in the life of our church. The cover on April 14 was modeled on the 1929 bulletin. Today's bulletin is based on the bulletin cover from 1947. Be ready each week until May 19 to see different visual presentations that display the worship life of our church over the last 100 years!

SERMON SERIES: FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

In this Season of Easter, we move from the Resurrection of Jesus to the coming of the Holy Spirit. This year we mark Pentecost, the birth of the Church, by celebrating the 100th anniversary of our congregation, Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church. In 1924, Dr. G.M. Maxwell crafted a poem to mark the church's founding, calling it "The Church of the Open Door." During these Easter weeks, we will look at some of the stanzas of that poem and where, biblically, they originate. We will also be sharing stories and anecdotes from the 100 years of RCPC in sermons each Sunday in April and May to frame our life together in Jesus Christ as we begin to ask, "Who is God calling us to be in our next hundred years?"

April 21*A Haven of Rest*Psalm 15 & Exodus 25:1-9

April 28*A Beacon of Hope*Exodus 13:21-22

.....& John 8:12-16

May 5*For the Travel-Stained,*.....Matthew 11:28-30

.....*Weary & Sore*

May 12*My Spirit Responds to the Call*Psalm 100

.....& 1 Samuel 3:1-18

May 19*The Church of the Open Door*Isaiah 6:1-8

.....& Revelation 3:14-4:6

DIRECTORY OF THE CHURCH

The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley, Head of Staff
 The Rev. Isabella Fagiani, Associate Pastor
 Leigh Sackett, Director of Christian Education
 The Rev. David Dixon, MD, Minister of Care
 Dillon J. Swanson, Director of Music Ministries
 Betsy Prillaman, Preschool Director

ELDERS

Class of 2024

Ellen Austin
 Liz Heddleston
 Susan Kessler
 Anne Newman
 Bob Snead

Class of 2025

Debra Abbott
 Stephanie Danco
 Chuck Gilliland
 Eddie Martin
 Henry Schaefer

Class of 2026

Matt Arnold
 Michael Lockaby
 Hunter Moore
 Jennifer Owen-O'Quill
 Christopher Ptomey

DEACONS

Class of 2024

Emilie Biddle
 Jeff Bossert
 Mac Snead
 Josh Williamson

Class of 2025

Dawn Long
 Abby Pierson
 Jane Powell

Class of 2026

Maggie Jarrett
 Will Smith
 Kaitlin Swanner
 Betty Whitehead

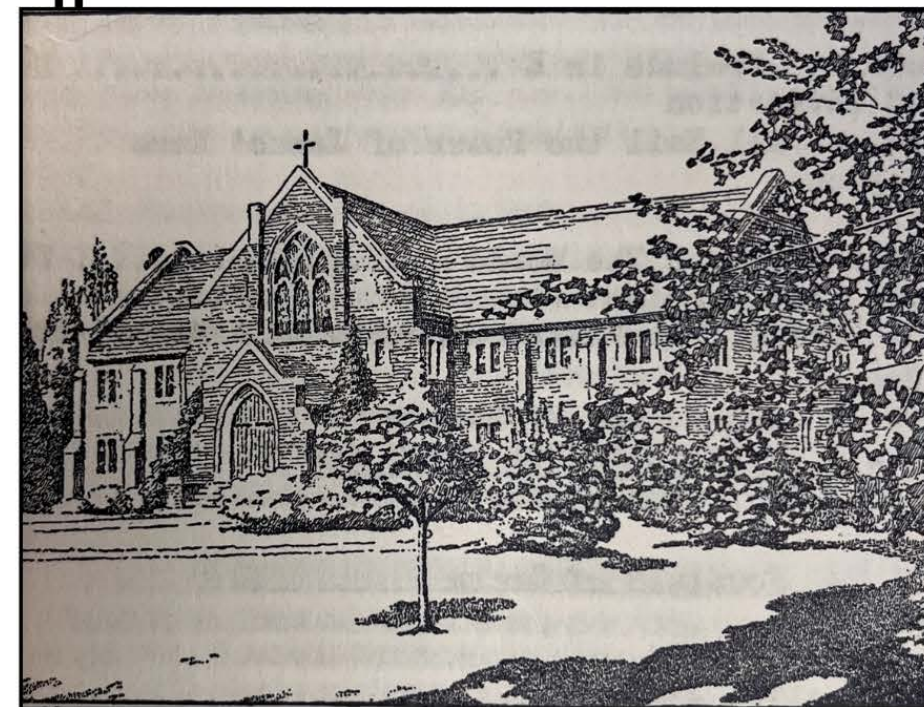
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rcpres.org

Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church

GRANDIN ROAD, ROANOKE, VIRGINIA



Sunday, April 21, 2024
 11:00 AM - Sanctuary

A. C. WHALEY
Senior Minister
 I.M. FAGIANI
Associate Minister