

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

THE WESTMINSTER CHIMES

OPENING PRAYER

Martin Luther (1438-1546)

PRELUDE

Chamber Bell Ensemble

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Sandra Eithun

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leigh Sackett

from "Of Power and Time" by Mary Oliver

The clock! That twelve-figured moon skull, that white spider belly! How serenely the hands move with their filigree pointers, and how steadily!

Twelve hours, and twelve hours, and begin again! Eat, speak, sleep, cross a street, wash a dish! The clock is still ticking.

Every day, twelve little bins in which to order disorderly life, and even more disorderly thought.

The town's clock cries out, and the face in every wrist hums or shines; the world keeps pace with itself. Another day is passing, a regular and ordinary day.

On this ordinary day, we step into a new rhythm, the rhythm of resurrection, of grace, of mystery and joy. Sing out, O Church, and celebrate the God who orders our lives!

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 50 (see projection)

KINGSFOLD

Deep in the Shadows of the Past

*CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess that we cherish memories of wrongs done to us. We let our pain define us, bitterness consume us, and we refuse to imagine a future freed from suffering. We reject your grace that remakes and refashions us. And we know this leaves us living in the past perpetually. We need your ability to heal, to forgive, to be free. Help us to remember what we need, to let fade what needs to recess, and to look at your claim upon us as our true identity.

(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.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING

Amelia Hanks

ANTHEM

Raleigh Court Ringers

Resound

Karen Thompson

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 17:8-15

(p. 63 in the pew Bible)

The grass withers and the flowers fade but the word of the Lord stands forever. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S TIME

The Rev. Isabella Fagiani

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

Deuteronomy 25:17-19

(p. 180 in the pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley

Memories That Destroy

RESPONDING TO 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 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.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 432

REPTON

How Clear is Our Vocation, Lord

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

Sanctuary Choir

I Choose Love

Mark A. Miller

In the midst of pain, I choose love. In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain, I await the sun again, I choose love. I choose love. In the midst of war, I choose peace, In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score, I will seek the good once more, I choose peace. I choose peace. When my world falls down, I will rise. When my world falls down, explanations can't be found, I will climb to holy ground, I will rise. I will rise.

*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

FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN 65

CWM RHONDDA

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

THEMBA AMEN

Themba Amen

*POSTLUDE

Cwm Rhondda

Paul Manz

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Acolyte: Cora Goad and Shaylee Marshall

Children's Worship: Leigh Sackett

MINISTRY MESSAGES

PRAYER REQUESTS: George Baldwin, Marvin & Roena Barbre, Rex Jennie Bell (Kerry Bossert's father), Dawn Blakeman, Jackie Blakeman, Brendan Brown (Kathy and Les Brown's grandson), Mayuen Chice, Beverly Day and family (friend of Camilla and Johnsey Cabaniss), Nancy Farthing, Betty Garner, Susan Lindstrom, Megan Mallare (friend of Kathy Grove), Melissa Martin (friend of Lisa Boylan), Rusty McCown, Debbie Miller, Billie Murphree (Dawn Long's mother), Jon Nance (Bill and Betty Nance's son/stepson), Garland Parry, Hugh Wellons, and all caregivers.

Our sincere thoughts and prayers are with Kerry Bossert and her father Rex Bell after the passing of Kerry's stepmother, Jennie Bell, on Tuesday, September 24.

TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING TODAY We invite you to contribute a few cents for each meal to help alleviate hunger and poverty in the world. Jesus commands, "You give them something to eat." Matthew 14:16

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.

MISSION PARTNER SUPPORT Each month, we are designating all cash and coin to one of our local mission partners. For the month of September, we are supporting the Hunger Mission Group. In 2023, the Hunger Mission Group received \$8,500 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 the Hunger Mission Group in the text box. As of September 22, we have collected \$2,407.72 for the Hunger Mission Group.

OPPORTUNITY FOR GENEROSITY: HUNGER MISSION GROUP

The Hunger Mission Group is a ministry both fully funded and staffed by the congregation. Each week, congregants put together food bags for the weekend for children at Hurt Park and Lincoln Terrace Elementary Schools. Additionally, other volunteers make food purchases, restock the pantry at the church, and bring in grocery bags. The Hunger Mission Group has also helped start a sustainable food pantry at Woodrow Wilson Middle School in partnership with other local churches.

Here are ways you may consider helping us in the upcoming school year:

1. We need more food bag packers! This rewarding job takes place each Thursday morning at 9:00 AM at RCPC for Lincoln Terrace (contact Paula Derbyshire). For Hurt Park, the team meets at 10:00 AM at the Hurt Park Elementary School cafeteria (contact Nancy Trussell).
2. Our monthly volunteer team that picks up canned and boxed food from the Food Bank one morning per month is outstanding. If you would like to join this group contact Henry Schaefer.
3. Join the Hunger Mission Leadership Team. We are looking for people with a talent for numbers, those who love to help with P.R. and advertising, and those who are creative thinkers.
4. Consider giving a financial donation to the Hunger Mission (and small jars of peanut butter are always appreciated!)

ADULT SMALL GROUPS The Small Group lessons are based on the Sunday sermons and scripture. Being part of a Small Group is an experience rich in personal connection and spiritual growth. Small Groups discuss what is shared in worship, therefore the experience of worship is more deeply ingrained in our minds and hearts. As we contemplate it all together, the concepts take root and our faith grows!

Sermon Reflections: Mondays 12:30 PM-2:00 PM - Andrew Whaley, Room 102

The Fools: Tuesdays 4:00 PM-5:30 PM - David Dixon, Room 102

Soul Sisters: Tuesdays 7:30 PM-9:00 PM- Emilie Biddle, various homes

The After Dinner Crowd: Wednesdays 7:00 PM-8:30 PM - Leigh Sackett, Room 102

Thursday Theology: Thursdays 10:30 AM-12:00 PM - Elise Hansard, Room 101

SERMON SERIES: *Remembering the Future, Expecting the Past*

As we move toward the 100th birthday of Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church, we are going to explore what it means for Christian people to remember God's faithfulness. Memory gives life meaning, but memory can also become nostalgia which leads to destruction and paralysis. Hope drives us forward to the promises of God, but hope that forgets the past is amnesia which brings us to ideology and eventually idolatry. So how do we remember and how do we hope so that the purposes and promises of God are lived out as we begin our next hundred years?

10/6—Do Not Remember—Isaiah 43:16-21

10/13—The Risk of Amnesia—Deuteronomy 15:7-15 & Hosea 4:1-6

10/20—Generative Hope—Lamentations 3:22-24 & Micah 4:1-5

PUMP-A-PINT FALL BLOOD DRIVE

RCPC's Fall Blood Drive is scheduled for October 1 from 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-ups are available on the Red Cross website at REDCROSSBLOOD.ORG. You are welcome to schedule your appointment, or you can contact Lillian at 540-632-8921 or alexanderlj@yahoo.com and she will gladly get you on the schedule! The sign-up sheet will also be available in the Gathering Area before and after Sunday worship services starting September 15. The Pump-a-Pint Mission Group would love to have you join the ranks of faithful donors here at RCPC. Come for the snacks and fellowship, leave knowing you have saved three lives! Thank you for your continued support of this vital mission!

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY is October 6 and we need your help. We will come to the Lord's Supper with a visual arrangement of breads from around the world. We are asking for world globes to use at this service as well as different types of natural fabrics such as silk, linen, batik, Indian cotton, and the like. Please bring your fabric and globes to the church by Thursday, October 3 labeled with your name so that you can reclaim your items. Please plan on picking up your items after worship on October 6. Both the 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM service on October 6 will feature a steel drums ensemble led by Dawn Long and guests.

CHRISTMAS CONCERT CHOIR Those interested in participating in the Christmas Concert Choir for this event may contact Director of Music Ministries, Dillon J. Swanson at dillon@rcpres.org for more information prior to rehearsals beginning on Wednesday, October 2 at 7:00 PM.

THE BIBLE IN BLACK & WHITE This fall, Drs. Bill Lee and George Anderson will lead this growing study in a discussion of Walter Brueggemann's book, *Delivered into Covenant: Pivotal Moments in the Book of Exodus*, and will focus on the last half of the book which was not covered in April's session. The group meets on the first four Wednesdays of October at noon in the Fellowship Hall of Second Presbyterian Church.

FELLOWSHIP DINNERS - WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15 PM Who doesn't love a birthday party? Join us at 6:15 PM on Wednesday, October 2 for our first Fellowship dinner of the year and combine our church's birthday celebration with a Taco Fiesta! EVERYONE can celebrate the birthday of RCPC with cupcakes! Sign up in the Gathering Area or online at rcpres.org/dinner before noon on Tuesday. Meals are \$8.00/person or \$25.00 for the entire family. Fellowship with your church family is no charge! If you need to take a meal home to a family member, please bring your own container.

RCPC CALENDAR

Sunday, September 29

9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Discover RCPC
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
5:00 PM Youth Choir
6:00 PM Youth Group

Monday, September 30

10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
12:30 PM Small Group: Whaley
7:00 PM Session

Tuesday, October 1

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
1:30 PM Pump-A-Pint Blood Drive
4:00 PM Small Group: Dixon
5:00 PM PW Coordinating Team
6:30 PM Genesis Ringers
7:30 PM Raleigh Court Ringers
7:30 PM Small Group: Biddle

Wednesday, October 2

12:00 PM Bible in Black & White at Second Pres.
4:00 PM God Alive
6:15 PM Fellowship Dinner
7:00 PM Small Group: Sackett
7:00 PM Christmas Choir
7:45 PM Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, October 3

9:00 AM Hunger Mission Packing
10:30 AM Small Group: Hansard
7:00 PM RCNA Board Meeting

Friday, October 4

Saturday, October 5

Sunday, October 6

World Communion Sunday

9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Session Meeting for New Members
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
12:15 PM Discover RCPC
5:00 PM Youth Choir
6:00 PM Youth Group

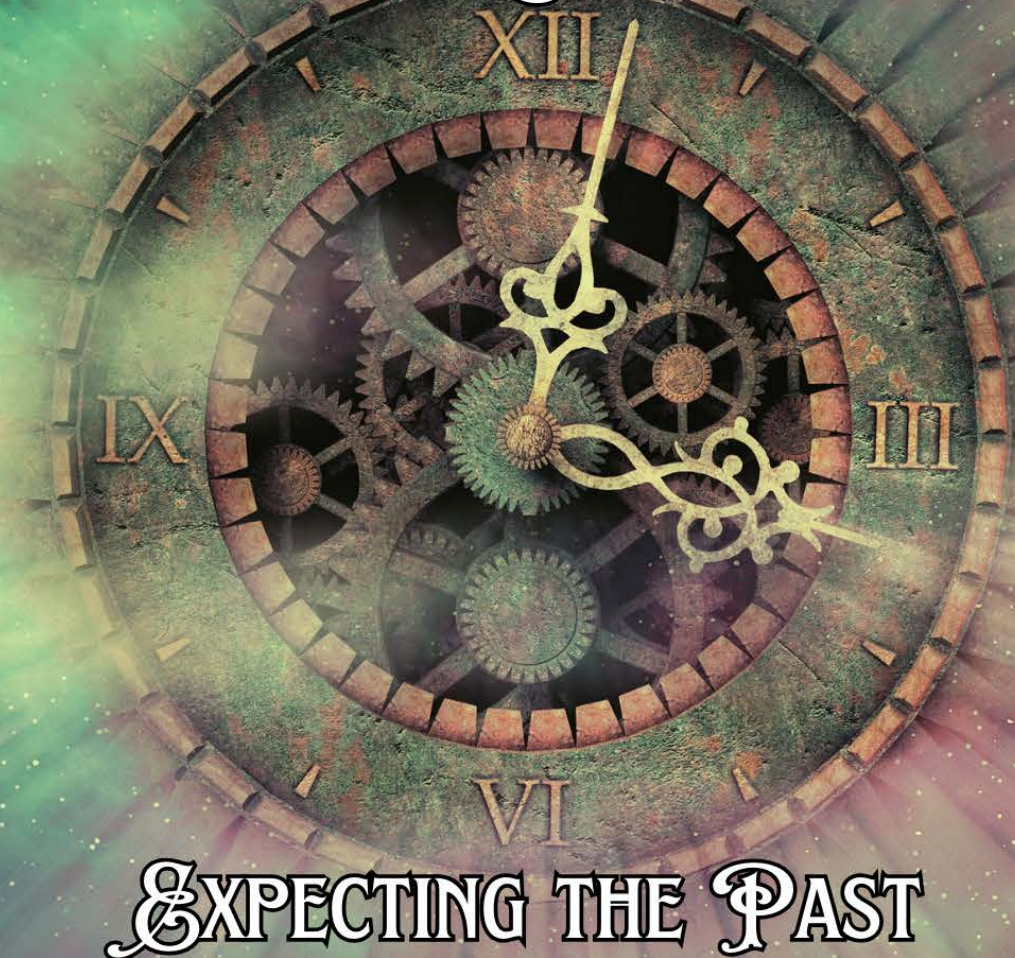
WEEKLY SCHEDULE FOR GROUPS

Preschool: Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Centering Prayer at St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church: Monday, 10:00 AM
Cub Scouts: Monday, 6:30 PM
BSA Troop 2: Monday, 7:00 PM
Roanoke Valley Choral Society, Monday, 7:00 PM
AA-Primary Purpose: Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 AM
AA-Seeds of Hope: Tuesday, 5:30 PM
Tai Chi: Tuesday & Thursday, 5:30 PM
Hip Sober Chicks: Thursday, 6:30 PM
Al-Anon: Friday, 11:45 AM

RALEIGH COURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR

September 29, 2024
11:00 AM - Sanctuary

Remembering the Future,



& EXPECTING THE PAST

The Mission of RCPC is:
To Seek Christ
To Serve Christ
To Show Christ
To Know God through Christ

Ministers
Pastor & Head of Staff
Associate Pastor
Director of Christian Education
Minister of Care
Director of Music Ministries
Preschool Director

All the People of Raleigh Court Church
The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley
The Rev. Isabella Fagiani
Leigh Sackett
The Rev. David Dixon, MD
Dillon J. Swanson
Betsy Prillaman

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