

## GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

### THE WESTMINSTER CHIMES

**OPENING PRAYER** Jan Richardson “Blessed Are You Who Bear the Light”

**PRELUDE** Austin Frantz, piano & Dillon J. Swanson, organ  
*It is Well with My Soul* arr. Marvin Gaspard & Mark Hayes

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** Leigh Sackett  
Samson had hair that gave him power. That sounds strange, but think a minute. Hair carries power still.

**It marks the beautiful- long and full and flowing.**

It threatens when it is too bouncy, too curly, too dark, uncontrollable, and so we try to control it with product and style.

**Hair falls out with age. We lose our hair as we, literally, lose our strength.**

Hair- a source of power; a mark of pride; a way to measure a body's worth.

**Let us remember we serve a God who knows all the hairs of our head and who loves us no matter our power.**

**\*OPENING HYMN 12** ST. DENIO  
*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

### **\*CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Before we ask for anything, O God, you provide for us. Breath, food, people, home. But we confess it is never enough. We want more- power, influence, creativity, beauty. We take what is blessing and make it commodity only to fall to our pride. Strip us of our power, we pray, so that we might know your sustaining love and mercy shown to us in Jesus our Savior.**

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

### **\*ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**\*GLORY TO GOD** Gloria Taizé  
**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

May the peace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

**And also with you.**

**\*TWO-CENTS-A-MEAL OFFERING** Greta & James Mallory

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Judges 16:4-22 (p. 231 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 1<sup>st</sup> Grade may leave for Children's Worship, an age-appropriate service.*

### SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Judges 16:23-31 (p. 232 in the pew Bible)  
This is the Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley  
Shot Put

## 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](http://rcpres.org) and click "Give Now" to learn more.*

**OFFERTORY** Summer Pick-Up Choir  
*How Firm a Foundation* arr. John Rutter

How firm a foundation, yet saints of the Lord, is laid for your faith in his excellent Word! What more can he say than to you he hath said, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled? Fear not, I am with thee; O be not dismayed, for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid; I'll strengthen thee, help thee and cause thee to stand, Upheld by my righteousness, omnipotent hand. When through the deep waters I call thee to go, the rivers of woe shall not thee overflow; For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress. When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, my grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply; The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine. The soul that on Jesus still leans for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake, I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake.

**\*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 634** (TO GOD BE THE GLORY)  
*To God Be the Glory*

### **\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE 741** GUIDE MY FEET  
*Guide My Feet* (stanza 1)

**\*POSTLUDE** Austin Frantz, piano & Dillon J. Swanson, organ  
*To God Be the Glory* arr. Joel Raney

### **TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:**

Acolyte: Simon Whaley

Children's Worship: Leigh Sackett

Summer Organ Sidekick: Joanna Whaley

## MINISTRY MESSAGES

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** Meggie Austin, Marvin & Roena Barbre, 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, Stephen Hampton (Mary Hampton's brother), Paul & Betsy Keister, Susan Lindstrom, Megan Mallare (friend of Kathy Grove), Melissa Martin (friend of Lisa Boylan), Rusty McCown, Jenny McKenzie, Billie Murphree (Dawn Long's mother), Garland Parry, Bob Snead, Hugh Wellons, and all caregivers.

**ONLINE GIVING** If you prefer to give online you can either visit [rcpres.org](http://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 July, we are supporting West End Center for Youth. In 2023, West End Center received \$6,000 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 West End Center in the text box. As of July 14, we have collected \$1,427 for West End Center.

### **SERMON SERIES: OLYMPIANS**

The Olympics is a great display of human discipline, effort, and talent. Athletes from all over the world compete not for money but for the honor of their land, their family, and themselves. Events, some of which go back hundreds of years, define the spectacle, and names of the greats are remembered for generations. The Olympic games, in fact, go back to the times in which the Bible was written, back to the eighth century BCE in Greece and lasted until the fourth century CE. Who knows if the biblical authors knew about the Olympics, but what scripture does reveal is that those who are in God's covenant often tell a different story than athletic glory. This summer we will explore just how we might endeavor in the Olympics of Faith.

August 4: Romans 9:30 -10:4 *The Hurdles*  
August 11: Psalm 68:1-6 & Mark 9:33-37 *The Gold Medal*  
August 18: Psalm 108:1-6 & 2 Timothy 4:6-8 *The Closing Ceremonies*

**CENTENNIAL CONVERSATIONS** This summer's Centennial Conversations project has begun! 60 members of our church have stepped forward to be Listeners and are reaching out to have one-on-one conversations with everyone in our church family. Be watching for an email, call, or note from your Centennial Listener, and please respond to their invitation to meet. If you are new to our church, we would love to include you! Simply fill out the tear off sheet found in this Bulletin and drop it in the offering plate or give it to one of our Pastors after worship. Questions? Contact Paula Mitchell [paula.mitchell19@gmail.com](mailto:paula.mitchell19@gmail.com) or Jennifer Owen-O'Quill [jennifer.owenoquill@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.owenoquill@gmail.com).

**SANCTUARY CHOIR** Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals will kick off Wednesday, August 7 at 7:00 PM in the Choir Commons. Come for a fun evening of singing and fellowship as we begin the fall season. Returning choir members should return any checked-out music and clean out their cubbies before this date. Singers interested in joining the choir this fall, should contact Dillon and join us that evening as well!

**NEW ENSEMBLE! GENESIS RINGERS**

Rehearsals: Tuesdays (6:30 PM - 7:15 PM)  
4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Adult

This ensemble, as the name implies, is for beginning and early advancing handbell ringers all ages 4th grade and up. The Genesis Ringers offer music in worship 4 Sundays a year at the 11:00 AM sanctuary service. In this ensemble of children, youth, and adults, we will learn the basics of handbell ringing and music reading. Parents (or other adult family members) and students can enjoy this choir together. While the basics of music gained from piano lessons or participation in a school orchestra, band, or choir are helpful, music reading is not required and can be learned while participating in this ensemble. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Dillon J. Swanson as soon as possible, so plans for the structure of the ensemble can begin. The goal for this ensemble is to be 9-12 ringers. If you would like more information, don't hesitate to reach out with questions by emailing [dillon@rcpres.org](mailto:dillon@rcpres.org)! Our first rehearsal will be Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 PM in the music room.

**WORSHIP & POTLUCK BRUNCH AT MILL MOUNTAIN:**

**Sunday, August 25 at 10:00 AM**

Worship service on Mill Mountain will be at 10:00 AM on Sunday, August 25, our meal following the service will be a brunch. The Fellowship Committee will provide coffee, juice, and biscuit sandwiches from Scratch Biscuit. We are asking the congregation to bring fruit, breads, breakfast casseroles or other brunch items. Don't forget to bring a chair! We look forward to seeing everyone on Mill Mountain. If you are unable to join us on Mill Mountain, a shortened service will be available at 8:00 AM in the Chapel.

**RCPC CALENDAR**

**Sunday, July 28**

9:00 AM Pick Up Choir Rehearsal  
10:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

**Monday, July 29**

9:00 AM Bible & Music Camp  
10:00 AM Centering Prayer at St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church  
10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group  
7:00 PM Session

**Tuesday, July 30**

9:00 AM Bible & Music Camp  
10:30 AM Primary Purpose: AA  
4:00 PM Small Group: Dixon  
5:30 PM Tai Chi

**Wednesday, July 31**

9:00 AM Bible & Music Camp

**Thursday, August 1**

9:00 AM Bible & Music Camp  
10:30 AM Primary Purpose: AA  
4:00 PM Bible & Music Camp Performance  
5:30 PM Tai Chi  
6:00 PM BSA Council Meeting  
6:30 PM Hip Sober Chicks  
7:00 PM RCNA Board Meeting

**Friday, August 2**

11:45 AM Al-Anon

**Saturday, August 3**

**Sunday, August 4**

10:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary

**ELDERS**

**Class of 2025**

Debra Abbott  
Stephanie Danco  
Chuck Gilliland  
Eddie Martin  
Henry Schaefer

**Class of 2026**

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

**Class of 2027**

Jessi Beckett  
Mark Derbyshire  
Victoria Skinner  
Marty Trussell  
Hugh Wellons

**DEACONS**

**Class of 2025**

Dawn Long  
Abby Pierson  
Jane Powell

**Class of 2026**

Maggie Jarrett  
Will Smith  
Kaitlin Swanner  
Betty Whitehead

**Class of 2027**

Chris DeFalco  
Kirk Martin  
Mike Mayo  
Autumn Quinn  
Kathy Sebolt

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If you would you like to be included in our Centennial Conversations, please complete the form below, tear off, and drop it in the offering plate.

FIRST & LAST NAME:

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EMAIL ADDRESS:

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PHONE NUMBER:

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**RALEIGH COURT  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR

July 28, 2024  
10:00 AM - Sanctuary

**OLYMPIANS**  
July & August 2024



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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