

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

THE WESTMINSTER CHIMES

OPENING PRAYER

Desmond Tutu (1931-2021)

INTROIT

Sanctuary Choir and Youth Choir

Love is Love is Love is Love

Abbie Betinis

Love is love is love is love. All we need is love

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leigh Sackett

Walter Brueggemann, *The Prophetic Imagination*

Hope is an absurdity too embarrassing to speak about, for it flies in the face of all those claims we have been told are facts.

Hope is the refusal to accept the reading of reality which is the majority opinion; and one does that only at great political and existential risk.

Hope is subversive, for it limits the grandiose pretension of the present, daring to announce that the present to which we have all made commitments is now called into question.

The prophet has only the means of word, spoken word and acted word, to contradict the presumed reality of his or her community. The prophet is to provide the wherewithal whereby hope becomes possible again.

*OPENING HYMN 668

LE P'ING

Golden Breaks the Dawn

*CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess before you, O God, that we are not a people of hope. We are a people who look back and seek revenge for wrongs done to us. We are a people who look ahead and pressure ourselves to innovate our way to prosperity. We obsess over possibilities and spend our time in worry about events that never come to pass. We fail to protect ourselves from the pains that come as a surprise. We need you to give us hope, a future not of our making but yours, and a calling to live toward that vision with trust and in joy. Make it so in us today.

(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.

ANTHEM

Youth Choir

Seeds

Mark Burrows

If you want a world of hope, plant hope. If you want a world of hope, grow hope, grow hope. In our hands we hold the seeds to sow what our world needs. If you want a world of hope, be hope. If you want a world of peace, plant peace. If you want a world of peace, grow peace, grow hope. In our hands we hold the seeds to sow what our world needs. If you want a world of peace, be peace. If we water, if we nurture, then everyone will see the world of love God knows it can be. If you want a world of joy, plant joy. If you want a world of joy, grow joy. In our hands we hold the seeds to sow what our world needs. If you want a world of joy, be joy. If you want a world of love, plant, hope, peace, and joy. If you want a world of love, be love.

WELCOME AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR DISCIPLESHIP

MINUTE FOR MISSION

Chris DeFalco

Generosity Campaign: Renewing the Covenant

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

Lamentations 3:22-24

(p. 751 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

Micah 4:1-5

(p. 848 in the pew Bible)

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Andrew C. Whaley

Generative Hope

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Confession of 1967*

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of human life: social and cultural, economic and political, scientific and technological, individual and corporate. It includes the natural environment as exploited and despoiled by sin. It is the will of God that the divine purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from creation. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 757

KINGSFOLD

Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

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.

RENEWING THE COVENANT: OUT THROUGH THE OPEN DOORS

Molly Gregson Koon

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 and Deanne Vance, piano

When Memory Fades

arr. Eric Nelson

When memory fades and recognition falters, when eyes we love grow dim, and minds confused, Speak to our souls of love that never alters; speak to our hearts by pain and fear abused. O God of life and healing peace, empower us with patient courage, by your grace infused. As frailness grows and youthful strengths diminish in weary arms that worked their earnest fill, Your aging servants labor now to finish their earthly tasks, as fits your mystery's will. We grieve their waning, yet rejoice, believing your arms, unwearied, shall uphold us still. Within your Spirit, goodness lives unfading. The past and future mingle into one. All joys remain, unshadowed light pervading. No valued deed will ever be undone. Your mind enfolds all finite acts and offerings. Held in your heart, our deathless life is won!

*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 373

JERUSALEM

O Day of Peace

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

THEMBA AMEN

Themba Amen

*POSTLUDE

Chorale Prelude on "Hanover"

C. Hubert H. Parry

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Acolyte: Lily Ward and Isabelle Brockman

Children's Worship: Charles Richards and Rebecca Whaley

MINISTRY MESSAGES

PRAYER REQUESTS: George Baldwin, 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, Susan Lindstrom, Megan Mallare (friend of Kathy Grove), Melissa Martin (friend of Lisa Boylan), Rusty McCown, Billie Murphree (Dawn Long's mother), Jon Nance (Bill and Betty Nance's son/stepson), Hugh Wellons, June Wilhelm, 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.



MISSION PARTNER SUPPORT Each month, we are designating all cash and coin to one of our local mission partners. For the month of October, we are supporting the Rescue Mission. In 2023, the Rescue Mission received \$5,500 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 Rescue Mission in the text box. As of October 13, we have collected \$1,184.05 for the Rescue Mission.

FELLOWSHIP DINNERS - WEDNESDAYS AT 6:15 PM Roasted Pork Loin is a Fellowship Dinner Favorite! It will be served this Wednesday with Scalloped Potatoes, Mixed Veggies, Homemade Bread, and Cookies. Roasted Squash will be the entrée for Vegetarians. Let us know you'll be coming by signing up in the Gathering Area or online at rcpres.org/dinner. Cost is \$25 for your family or \$8 per person. If you need to feed a family member who is at home, please bring your own container.

FALL FESTIVAL TRUNKS We're in need of at least 25 Trunks to fill our Parking Lot for Trunk or Treat during Fall Festival on Sunday, October 27. If you can provide a decorated trunk, sign up online at tinyurl.com/RCPCTrunkOrTreat2024. Can't decorate a trunk but want to support the event? You're invited to donate candy to the cause. Candy Donations can go into the box in the Gathering Area throughout the month of October.

ORGAN SPOOKTACULAR & FALL FESTIVAL – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

5:00 PM – Organ Spooktacular: Bach's Famous *Toccatà* & a silent film with improvised organ music

5:30 PM-6:30 PM – Dinner (monetary donations accepted), Games, and Raffle Basket Ticket Sale

6:30 PM – Raffle winners announced

6:45 PM-7:30 PM – Trunk-or-Treat

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE In addition to our prayers for those impacted by Hurricane Helene, we invite you to contribute to relief efforts through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance ministry of the PC(USA). Use the QR Code to make a secure online donation. You may also give a check to the church marked PDA.



GENEROSITY CAMPAIGN: RENEWING THE COVENANT

As we began October, we celebrated the 100th anniversary of the founding of Raleigh Court Presbyterian Church (October 4, 1924). Since that day, we have sought to follow the ways of Jesus Christ within our community and beyond. This means that the fall of 2024 is the beginning of our second century of witness to the Gospel! This summer we have conducted Centennial Conversations to strengthen our connection and listen for God together. We anticipate a deepening of faith as a result of these endeavors. As we continue this process of listening for God, we ask you to be in prayer for how you can support our church's witness in 2025. As we "renew the covenant" of 100 years ago, you will learn more about our current life as a church in materials coming to your home soon, in messages in worship, and in a special presentation about our present situation and future hopes on October 20 either at 8:00 AM before our Chapel service or over lunch following the 11:00 AM service.

REFORMATION SUNDAY – OCTOBER 27 The last Sunday in October is a day in many churches set aside to commemorate the start of the Reformation—October 31, 1517 by Martin Luther in Wittenberg, Germany. Generally, Reformation Sunday is the day the Church commemorates all that was accomplished and learned during the Protestant Reformation. This day invites us to celebrate and reflect on the generations of church leaders who sought to reform the Church and its teachings and doctrine. People like Martin Luther, Jan Hus, John Calvin, Ulrich Zwingli, William Farel, Theodore Beza, and John Knox are some of the most notable. Reformation Sunday is not just a commemoration to sit and remember but also to look at the present and toward the future listening for God's call. This day matters to us today for many reasons: It reminds us to continually examine all we do and teach. It reminds us that God is a God of renewal. It reminds us that our sole source of salvation is in Jesus Christ. It reminds us that the Church matters.

At RCPC, we celebrate this day with homage to the Scottish heritage of the Presbyterian Church inviting members to don their families' tartans, carrying our Presbyterian Confessions banners in procession, singing reformation hymns, and including traditional bagpipe music into our service. This year commemorate this day through the continued celebrations of our centennial featuring a newly composed choir anthem using text from "The Church of the Open Door" by Dr. G.M. Maxwell, and we will share and sign a new common prayer for RCPC's next 100 years.

JUSTICE, EQUITY, & BELONGING - Isabel Thornton, Executive Director of Restoration Housing Presentation on Wednesday, October 30, 7:00 PM—Chapel

Are you new to Roanoke? Are you a resident of the Roanoke Valley who lacks knowledge about the historical formation of different neighborhoods? Are you curious to learn the ways government and urban design policies shaped our neighborhoods in radically different ways? If so, you are in for a treat! Isabel Thornton, Executive Director of Restoration Housing, will answer your questions when she speaks in the Chapel on Wednesday, October 30 at 7:00 PM. Isabel will address the formation of Raleigh Court neighborhood, as well as South Roanoke and Gainesboro. Restoration Housing's Mission is to foster a strong, safe, and dignified community for low-to middle-income people, one house at a time. How does Isabel work through Restoration to increase justice and equity for people in all neighborhoods in the Roanoke Valley? Come and see. Please join us for this important event!

REQUIEM BY JOHN RUTTER – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 AT 4:00 PM

We honor the legacy of the deceased members in RCPC history with an All Saints Concert featuring John Rutter's Requiem. This concert will be presented by the Sanctuary Choir and a chamber ensemble of six instrumentalists and the organ. Rutter's eclectic setting of the Requiem in one of the most popular choral works composed in the last 35 years praised for its simplicity, brevity, and memorable melodies.

ROANOKE VALLEY CHORAL SOCIETY invites you to their fall concert, *A Song of Peace*, on Monday, October 21 at 7:00 PM in the RCPC Sanctuary. The Roanoke Valley Choral Society's Artistic Director is Patricia Kelley Trail, and they are accompanied by Dale Yeager.

RCPC CALENDAR

Sunday, October 20

8:00 AM Generosity Presentation – Fellowship Hall
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 Generosity Presentation & Lunch – Fellowship Hall
12:15 PM Youth Reps Meeting
5:00 PM Youth Choir
6:00 PM Youth Group

Monday, October 21

10:00 AM Monday Morning Prayer Group
12:30 PM Small Group: Whaley
3:30 PM Preschool Committee
4:30 PM Personnel & Administration
5:30 PM Stewardship & Finance
7:00 PM Roanoke Valley Choral Society Concert - Sanctuary

Tuesday, October 22

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
4:00 PM Small Group: Dixon
5:00 PM Mission Council
6:30 PM Genesis Ringers
7:00 PM Youth Committee
7:30 PM Raleigh Court Ringers
7:30 PM Small Group: Biddle

Wednesday, October 23

9:00 AM Hunger Mission Packing
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
7:00 PM Isabel Thornton's Presentation - Chapel
7:45 PM Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, October 24

9:00 AM Presbytery of the Peaks
10:30 AM Small Group: Hansard
7:00 PM Young Adult Halloween Party

Friday, October 25

Saturday, October 26

1:00 PM Living the Word

Sunday, October 27

9:00 AM Worship – Chapel
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Worship – Sanctuary
5:00 PM Organ Spooktacular & Fall Festival

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
AI-Anon: Friday, 11:45 AM

RALEIGH COURT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH THE CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR

October 20, 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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