



Rockville United Church
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)/United Church of Christ
14th Sunday after Pentecost
August 30, 2026 ~ Hybrid Workshop

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

PRESENTATION OF OUR COMMON LIFE

GATHERING MUSIC

Gather Us In

Haugen

Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in; our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Enter into worship in song and silence, enter into the Heart of Truth;

For herein lies the Great Mystery where life is ever unfolding;

Herein the Divine is made known and all are invited to serve.

Listen for the music of the Holy Word in the resounding Silence of the universe.

May balance and harmony be our aim as we are drawn into the Heart of Love.

Enter into the presence of the Holy in our midst!

Adaptation of Psalm 132 by Nan Merrill

*HYMN

Morning Has Broken

Chalice Hymnal No. 53

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
Like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
Sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
Born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, Praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION (unison)

Merciful God, when we come to you in pieces, you enter our brokenness and restore our wholeness; when we admit our failings, you meet us and help us to move on; when we fear what we cannot control, you promise to abide with us even in uncertainty. Bless us as we confess our erring ways and ask for forgiveness. Bless us and lift our burdens so we are able to respond with love. Beloved Companion, walk with us and speak to us even in the quiet of our own heartbeats. With mercy and compassion, hold us in the heart of your love and make us one with Love that we might live in peace and harmony. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

CHORAL RESPONSE

Spirit of the Living God

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 100

The Inclusive Bible

Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth! Worship God with gladness! Enter into God's presence with singing! Know that God is God! God made us, and we belong to the Creator; we are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. Enter God's gates with thanksgiving and the courts with praise! Give thanks to God! Bless God's Name! For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.

One: Listen to what the Spirit is teaching.

All: Thanks be to God.

WORD FOR CHILDREN

Pastor Jennifer

Nursery care for infants through age 3 is available in the nursery on the lower level. Our nursery caregiver is Caitlin Vrendenburg. Older children are encouraged to remain in worship. The rug space in the sanctuary is available for quiet play, coloring and reading.

***HYMN**

Praise Ye The Lord

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah! Everybody praise the Lord.

Praise God with the sound of the trumpet, praise God with the lute and the harp. praise God with timbrel and dancing, praise God wherever you are. [Refrain]

Praise God with holy cymbals, praise God with strings and with pipes, praise God with clashing cymbals, praise God with all of your might. [Refrain]

Praise God in the holy temple, praise God for almighty deeds; praise God for bountiful mercies, for God fulfills our needs. [Refrain]

Praise God on top of mountains, praise God both day and night, praise God down in the low valleys, praise God because it's alright. [Refrain]

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 84:1-7, 12

The Inclusive Bible

How lovely is your dwelling place, O God of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints, for the courts of the Holy One; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. Even the sparrow finds a home and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O God of hosts, my Sovereign and my God. Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. As they go through the valley of Baca, they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools. They go from strength to strength. O God of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

One: This is the word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN**

I Danced In The Morning

I danced in the morning when the world when the world was begun,
I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth;
At Bethlehem I Had my birth.

Refrain:

Dance, then, water, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the Dance, said He,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said He.

I danced for the scribe and the Phar-I-see,
But they would not dance and they would not follow Me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me Me and the dance went on. [refrain]

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung Me on high;
And left Me there on a cross to die. [refrain]

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance and I still go on. [refrain]

They cut me down and I leap up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in Me;
I am the Lord of the dance, said He. [refrain]

***HYMN**

What Wondrous Love Is This Chalice Hymnal No. 200

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing,
to God and to the Lamb I will sing!
To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM,"
while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing,
while millions join the theme, I will sing!

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on!
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be,
and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on,
and through eternity I'll sing on!

***HYMN**

We Shall Overcome

Chalice Hymnal No. 630

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
we shall overcome someday!
Oh, deep in my heart I do believe
we shall overcome someday!

We'll walk hand in hand.

We are not afraid (today).

The truth shall make us free.

We shall live in peace.

***HYMN**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

Chalice Hymnal No. 23

Praise, my soul, the God of heaven, glad of heart your carols raise;
ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should sing God's praise? Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise the Maker all our days.

Praise to God for grace and favor shown to all who are oppressed.
God shows steadfast love forever, slow to chide, and swift to bless. Alleluia!
Alleluia! Glorious is God's faithfulness!

Mother-like, God tends and spares us; knowing well our fragile frame.
Father-like, God gently bears us, tender-hearted, slow to blame. Alleluia!
Alleluia! All within me praise God's name!

Angels, teach us adoration you who see God face to face;
sun and moon and all creation, dwellers all in time and space, Alleluia!
Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace!

***HYMN**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Chalice Hymnal No. 433

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

When we are called to part, it gives us inward pain;
but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

(Repeat verse 1)

***HYMN**

My Life Flow On

Chalice Hymnal No. 619

My life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.

Refrain: No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing? [refrain]

MORNING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Refrain: One: Holy One, in your mercy,
All: *Receive our prayers.*

THE PRAYER THAT JESUS TEACHES

Our Loving God 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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Spirit of wind and fire, God of great possibilities, breathe your new life into the world through these gifts we return to you. Make us instruments of your peace, through the voice and vision you gift to us and through the outreach of our offerings we gift to the world. Amen.

***BENEDICTION**

May the blessings of God go before you.

May divine grace and peace abound.

May the Spirit live within you.

May all love wrap you round.

May the blessings of God remain with you.

May you walk on holy ground.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God. (repeat)

We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking, we are walking in the light of God.
(repeat)

We are singing...

POSTLUDE

Thanks to our worship helpers today!

Liturgist: Dan Hockensmith

Digital Host: Beth Marshwood

Welcome Table: Suzanne Junod

Greeter: Beth Fentrup



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!
September 11-13, 2026 at Camp Pecometh

It is time to mark your calendars for Camp Pecometh – RUC’s intergeneration camp on the Chester River. Plan to join RUC for a weekend of fun, worship and time together. Join RUC for this over 25-year tradition.

Final payments are due September 1.

CABINS: Individual: \$125 each, family of three: \$375, additional family members: \$50 each

RETREAT CENTER: There are 24 hotel-style rooms in the retreat center. \$400 double occupancy, additional family members: \$50 each

PAY IT FORWARD: You may make an extra donation to the Camp Pecometh Scholarship Fund to enable all who want to attend Camp Pecometh by adding an extra little something to your payment, and a note it is to “Pay it Forward!” (There is a memo line in the online donation form to do this.) Thank you!

For more information, or to discuss accommodations, please call Denise Rozell at (301) 787-6814.

Welcome to Rockville United Church!

We are glad you have joined us for worship this morning. We trust that you will find RUC to be a welcoming and engaging place to explore the life of faith within a community that honors each person's spiritual journey. We encourage you to ask questions, visit our website, and share your contact information at the welcome table near the front doors.

I hope to greet you personally following worship, and invite you to contact me.

Blessings,

Rev. Jennifer Knutsen

jennifer@rockvilleunitedchurch.org

Our complimentary Wi-Fi network is **RUC Mesh**. The password is **heavenly**.



Please Scan Me To Give To RUC.

RUC Staff

Rev. Jennifer R. Knutsen, Senior Pastor

Rev. Guy S. Johnson, Associate Pastor

Jim Levy, Director of Music

Dalia Marciano, Administrative Coordinator

Cha'Mia Holloman, Communications Coordinator

Caitlin Vrendenburg, Nursery Coordinator

Juan Mendez, Sexton



Rockville United Church

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)/United Church of Christ

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(Office Hours: Wed, Fri—10am to 3pm or by appointment)

Ecumenical † Just Peace † Open & Affirming † More Light