

24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

11:00am

A SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

PRELUDE "You Raise Me Up" (from Secret Garden,
by Rolf LovLand and Brenden Graham, © 2001)
Anna Gatsutsin, piano
(Prepare for worship in silent prayer and reflection)

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Rev. Jeff Binder*

INTROIT "O Praise" (Renaissance Russian Song,
arr. by N. Bogdanov, Public Domain) *Andrew Gatsutsin, guitar*

WORDS OF PRAISE *Amanda Avery*
From the Book of Common Prayer

of St. Giles Cathedral, Edinburgh, Scotland (1637)

O Lord our God, you are always more ready to bestow your
good gifts upon us

Than we are to seek them.

You are more willing to give

Than we desire or deserve.

Help us so to seek that we may truly find,

So to ask that we may joyfully receive,

So to knock that the door of your mercy may be opened
for us;

In the name of Christ Jesus, our one true hope.

***OPENING HYMN #175** "Seek Ye First"

***OPENING PRAYER** *Amanda Avery*
From the Church of Scotland Book of Common Order (1940)

**Everlasting God, in whom we live and move and have
our being:**

**You have made us for yourself, so that our hearts are
restless until they rest in you.**

**Give us purity of heart and strength of purpose, that
no selfish passion may hinder us from knowing your will,
no weakness keep us from doing it; that in your light we
may see light clearly, and in your service find perfect
freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and
forever.**

***ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE** *Amanda Avery*

God's peace strikes us with amazement, and yet at the same time dwells within us constantly. In faith, we embrace the paradox of living as children of God. We are made new each day, and unceasingly loved!

Alleluia!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** *Amanda Avery*

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

(Please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.)

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE** "Thank You, Lord" (3x)
"I Just Want to Thank You, Lord" *Dr. Renee Huff*

SCRIPTURE READING **Matthew 25:1-12** *Rev. Jeff Binder*

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM #649 "Amazing Grace" (duet guitar/harp)
Andrew & Anna Gatsutsin

SERMON "Imperfect Faith" *Rev. Jeff Binder*

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #362** "Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *Iona Abbey Worship Book*

We believe in God: Who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: To celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER *Hymnal P. 35*

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP *Sam Clem*

CALL TO OFFERING *Rev. Jeff Binder*

OFFERTORY "Jesus Christ the Lord" (Renaissance song)
Public Domain *Anna Gatsutsin, Harp*

***DOXOLOGY #606** Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"

***PRAYER OF GRATITUDE**

***CLOSING HYMN #829** "My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

***BLESSING & SENDING Iona Abbey Worship Book** *Rev. Jeff Binder*

May God, who is present in sunrise and nightfall,
and in the crossing of the sea,
guide your feet as you go.

**May God, who is with us when we sit
and when we stand,
encompass us with love
and lead us by the hand.**

May God, who knows your path
and the places where you rest,
be with you in your waiting,
be your good news for sharing,
and lead you in the way that is everlasting.

Alleluia! Amen.

***POSTLUDE #176** "If You Only Had Faith" *Anna/Andrew/Renee*

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HANDBELL CHOIR is practicing Christmas music on Monday nights. Our next rehearsal is Monday, November 13 at 7:00pm in the Handbell Room. Please contact Dr. Huff if you have questions.

THE STAUNTON HIGH SCHOOL AND SHELBURNE MIDDLE SCHOOL CHOIRS will perform in our sanctuary today, Sunday, November 12 at 3:00pm. We hope you can join us!

THE WAYNESBORO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA will perform in our sanctuary on Saturday, November 18 at 7:30pm.

THERE WILL BE A SESSION MEETING Tuesday, November 14, at 5:00pm in the library.

PW EVENING CIRCLE will meet Wednesday, November 15, at 6:00pm in the library.

THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS for the December issue of First Impressions is Wednesday, November 15. Thank you!

Prayer List

Please send out prayers for: Renee & Anthony Huff and their family; healing for Ann and Bill Ashworth; Louise Whipple; Paul Goble; Jim Cooke; Karen Shipsted & Angela Pumpry (friends of Robin Knott); Charlie Obaugh; Natalie Dodge; Sherry von Oeyen; Alan Obaugh; Justin Tate; family of Pamela Ah-Thion

Please contact Heidi in the church office or Pastor Jeff to have names added or removed from the prayer list.

Elders

Class of 2023

Amanda Avery, Worship
Ron Lowman, Jr., Property

Class of 2024

Sam Clem, Discipleship
Mary Meade, Worship
Barbara Richardson, Congregational Life

Class of 2025

Stephany Morgan, Missions & Outreach
Bret Ritchie, Administration
Hugh Sproul, Administration
Paige Kullman, Clerk

Staff

Rev. Jeff Binder, Interim Pastor
Dr. Renee Huff, Minister of Music
Heidi Marsh, Office Manager
Mona Tate, Nursery Attendant

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