

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

November 12th, 2023

“24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST”

Dallas United Methodist Church

Liturgical Color – Green



TODAY'S CENTERING MEDITATION

But he replied, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.'

Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

(Matthew 25:12-13 ...RSV)

* Please stand in stature or in heart as you are able.

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS

I Surrender All

by Henry A. Cesar Malan; arr. by Bill Wolaver

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO WORSHIP

We are pulled in many directions.

Many duties and tasks seek to lay claim on our lives.

This day, in this place, let service to God be your choice.

This day, in this place, we open our hearts and spirits to God.

Blessed be the God of creation who has called us here.

Praise be to God who sustains and nurtures our lives. Amen.

* *We Gather Together*

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CHILDREN'S CHAT

Rachel Bird

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord,

**there never seems to be enough time
to do all the things that are demanded of us.**

Schedules become crowded.

We live by the clock.

We think we are ready for all events that will come our way.

But we are rarely ready for you.

We would like you to come to us at a planned time

so that we can fit you into our busy lives.

Forgive us, Lord, for trying to make you a scheduled event.

We have moved you to a time on our weekly calendars.

Yet you are the eternal God who has always loved us and been ready to receive us.

Help us to learn that, with you as our foundation,

we can handle anything that comes our way.

With you as our focus, all things pale in comparison.

Let us look at the priorities in our lives

and see where we have placed service to you. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND PARDON

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

The Apostles' Creed, Ecumenical Version

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

* *Glory Be to the Father*

70

* *Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty*

64

TIME OF PRAYER / THE LORD'S PRAYER / THREE-FOLD AMEN

(from the ritual of the former Methodist Church)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

GOD'S WORD FOR US:

Matthew 25:1-13

(The Liturgist says: "The Word of God for ALL people" ... AND ... the People respond: "Thanks BE to God")

SPECIAL MUSIC

Choir

TODAY'S MESSAGE:

"STORY OF THE WISE AND FOOLISH MAIDENS"

* OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO THE LORD ...

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow ... # 94

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Blessing upon blessing has been given to us, O Lord, from your great bounty.

Now we return these gifts to you.

Bless these gifts and the lives that they represent

and cause them to work for you in this world which you have loaned to us.

In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen.

* *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

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* BENEDICTION

* *God Will Take Care of You*

130 (verses 1, 2)

PRAY FOR SHALOM

Today through Thanksgiving Day, November 23rd,

You are invited, encouraged, and challenged to pray for God's Shalom for our world.

Shalom is a Hebrew word meaning wholeness, completeness, wellness, peace, and harmony.

Peace in other words, is not simply the absence of war and fighting.

Shalom wants / desires God's very best for everyone.

"With man, this is impossible, but with God, all things are possible"

- Matthew 19:26

THIS WEEK'S DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Monday ... Matthew 25:1-13

Tuesday ... Colossians 4:2-18

Wednesday ... 1 Thessalonians 5:1-28

Thursday ... 2 Thessalonians 2:1-17

Friday ... 2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

Saturday ... John 4:31-38

Sunday ... Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 ... Psalm 76:1-12 ...

... 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 ... Matthew 25:14-30

INFORMATION FOR YOU

FRUIT & NUT ROLL SALE ... LAST CHANCE ... TODAY IS THE LAST DAY TO ORDER from our Handbell Choir's Fruit & Nut roll sale. Delivery will be NEXT Sunday November 19th. Flavors include Nut, Poppysseed, Cheese, Apricot, Prune, and Raspberry for \$12 each. Also available are the Pumpkin Cream Cheese rolls for \$18 each. Orders will be taken in the Prayer Room today.

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS ... this year's cost is \$8.00 ... the red poinsettias will be here December 17th ... the white poinsettias will be here December 24th. Orders are due Sunday, November 26th. To place your order, please contact Jennie Valick-Kopacz.

PRAY WITH OTHERS ... Join with other laity and clergy from across our Scranton Wilkes-Barre District Supervisory Area for 30 minutes of intentional prayer on Wednesday mornings starting at 7:45 AM. Join Zoom by using ... Meeting ID – 897 2237 3231 ... Passcode 711244

HANDBELL CHOIR PRACTICE ... Sundays at 8:45 AM

VOCAL CHOIR PRACTICE ... Sundays at 9:30 AM

QI-GONG CLASS ... Rosalie Allan is leading a 6-week QiGong (pronounced Chee Gong) class in the middle room upstairs in the education wing on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. QiGong is an ancient mind/body practice that creates a calm mental state. Positive effects include improving balance, lowering blood sugar and can contribute to a longer healthier life. QiGong cultivates inner strength, calm mind, and an overall feeling of relaxation. The cost is \$10 per lesson. For more information, please contact Rosalie Allan (570-885-7412)

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ... meeting here THIS THURSDAY at 7:00 PM.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS!

Gifts for the children from Children & Youth Services
are due by Sunday, December 10th.

Please contact Rachel Bird if you have any questions.

We are collecting pajamas for young children and teenagers from Children & Youth Services.

A container is on the floor next to the table in the Mission Area of the Prayer Room
to place your contributions. Gifts are due by Sunday, December 10th.

Gifts for the United Methodist Home in Tunkhannock, PA
are due by Sunday, December 10th.

Please contact Sharron Lewis if you have any questions.

Our "HUGS" tree is now up for your gifts
of Hats, Underwear, Gloves, and Scarves
for children and teenagers from Children & Youth Services.

Gifts are due by Sunday, December 10th.