



WESTMINSTER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

24th Sunday after Pentecost
15 November 2020 + 10:00 a.m.

Welcome

Rev. Christian K. Choi

Voluntary Aria

Flor Peeters

***Ringing of the Bell**

The congregation rises at the ringing of the Tower Bell.

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Trajan I. McGill

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

*You had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.*

We lift up our eyes to you Lord,

To God who are enthroned in the heavens.

Come, let us worship the Lord and bow down,
offering our praise to God who has redeemed us!

Psalm 90 & 123

***Hymn** We Praise You, O God

Kremser

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

With voices united our praises we offer
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.
With you, Lord, beside us, your strong arm will guide us.
To you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

***Invitation to Confession
and Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, we confess that we have sinned against you by not honoring you or one another. When we place our iniquities before you, it is your love that sheds light on our wayward deeds. As we stand in awe of your constancy for us, we ask your forgiveness through the mercy of Christ. Hear now our silent prayers of confession.

***Sung Response** Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us

***Declaration of Pardon** Friends, believe the good news: in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
The peace of Christ be with you. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Response of Praise Gloria Patri

Children's Sermon

First Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴ But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵ for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶ So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷ for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Music Be Thou Still

Johann Franck

Be thou still and learn of God.
God will guide thy daily living, when in faith you turn to God.
Therefore daily thanks be giving. All thy hopes will be fulfilled.
Be thou still. In this quiet learn of God's will.
Be thou still, though dark thy way.
Soon the light of love will brighten, as in peace ye dwell each day.

Second Scripture Reading Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵ to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷ In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸ But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Sermon Children of Light and Day Rev. Christian K. Choi

Text: "you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober."
1 Thessalonians 5:5-6

Music The Lord is My Light and My Salvation Frances Allitsen

The Lord is my light, and my salvation, whom, then shall I fear?
The Lord is the strength of my life, of whom, then, shall I be afraid?
Though an host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid;
And though there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in God.
For in the time of trouble, God shall hide me in the tabernacle,
Yea, in the secret places of God's dwelling shall God hide me,
and set me up upon a rock of stone.
The Lord is my light, and my salvation.

Words from Psalm 27

The Church at Prayer

Soloist: Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place,
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Introduction to the Offering

***Offertory Response** Doxology

***Prayer of Dedication** Almighty God, we know that our talents are really not ours, but yours. You give us resources, gifts, skills and talents to use in your service. We want to be faithful stewards, wise, generous and joyous in our giving. Accept, we pray, this offering, as a sign of our desire to be trustworthy servants of our servant Lord, Jesus Christ in whose name we pray. Amen.

***Hymn** Arise, Your Light Has Come *Festal Song*

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey:
show forth the glory of your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the broken-hearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

***Charge and Benediction**

***Voluntary** Postludio Festivo Sigfried Karg-Elert

(*) The congregation is invited to stand

Worship Participants

Rev. Trajan I. McGill, Associate Pastor for Parish Life
Rev. Christian K. Choi, Associate Pastor for Family Ministry
Dale Rogers, Organist and Director of Music and the Arts
Adam Miller, Tenor Lyle VanDeventer, Bass
Elsie and Bob Fox, Videographers
Bud Green and Nancy Huston, Ushers
Todd Knox, Safety Team