

October Worship

online or in the sanctuary



The Presbyterian Churches of Wyoming and West Pittston Sunday, October 18th, 2020 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Offering

As you arrive to the sanctuary, you can place your offering in the plate. If you are home, you can mail your offering to the church. West Pittston has the capability to receive offering through the Give Plus app or website.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

We belong to God.

God's stamp is on our lives.

God's love and compassion is built into us.

God's mercy and hope flow through us.

Let's celebrate the powerful presence of God.

Let's rejoice in all the opportunities God gives us to serve.

Hymn

Glorious Things of Thee are Spoken

You are invited to silently meditate on the music and hymns as we will not be singing

1 Glorious things of thee are spoken,
Zion, city of our God;
God, whose word cannot be broken,
Formed thee for a blest abode.
On the rock of ages founded,
What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded,
Thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2 See, the streams of living waters,
Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters
And all fear of want remove.
Who can faint while such a river
Ever flows their thirst to assuage?
Grace, which like the Lord, the Giver,
Never fails from age to age.

3 Round each habitation hovering,
See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a covering,
Showing that the Lord is near.
Thus deriving from their banner
Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna
Which God gives them when they pray.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Lord, like those religious leaders long ago, we, too, have malice in our hearts. We wish ill upon those we do not like and fail to recognize our own shortcomings. We are certain in our opinions rather than humble about our assumptions. We think the best of ourselves and the worst of others. We want to partition off our lives, offering you a portion of our loyalty, time and resources, when we are called to give our whole selves to you. Forgive our pettiness, our hard-heartedness and our stubbornness. Use our repentance as a means for the Spirit to work in us and remake us into a closer likeness of our Lord, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

Assurance of Pardon

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Exodus 33:12-23 Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.'¹³ Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people."¹⁴ He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest."¹⁵ And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here."¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."¹⁷ The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name."¹⁸ Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray."¹⁹ And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy."²⁰ But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live."²¹ And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock;²² and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by;²³ then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Children's Message

Special Music for Silent Reflection

Message or *Wondering with the Word* Some of these questions are from *Godly Play* by Jerome Berryman and are an encouragement to wonder with God's word. While *Godly Play* is designed for children, it is a good reminder that God's Word is for all of us. In *Godly Play*, we ask questions after God's story has been presented. Every person gathered has a voice in this wondering and the goal is not a "right" answer, but rather the opportunity to wonder about the scripture. Use any and all of these questions for your response to God's word. If you are worshipping alone, take time to journal your responses to these wondering questions or simply to ponder them prayerfully.

- I wonder what your favorite part of the story is...
- I wonder what the most important part of this story is...
- I wonder where you are in this story...

- I wonder what part of this story could be left out and still have all the story we need...
- I wonder what this scripture teaches us about the wilderness...

Hymn

Come Down, O Love Divine

1 Come down, O Love divine,
 Seek out this soul of mine
 And visit it with Your own ardor
 glowing;
 O Comforter, draw near,
 Within my heart appear,
 And kindle it, Your holy flame
 bestowing.

2 O let it freely burn,
 Till earthly passions turn
 To dust and ashes in its heat
 consuming;
 And let Your glorious light
 Shine ever on my sight,
 And clothe me round, the while my
 path illumining.

3 And so the yearning strong
 With which the soul will long
 Shall far outpass the power of human telling;
 For none can guess God's grace,
 Till Love creates a place
 Wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.

Profession of Faith **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.

Hymn

God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us

1 God of compassion, in mercy befriend us;
Giver of grace for our needs all availing,
Wisdom and strength for each day do Thou send us,
Patience untiring and courage unailing.

2 Wandering and lost, Thou hast sought us and found us,
Stilled our rude hearts with Thy Word of consoling;
Wrap now Thy peace, like a mantle, around us,
Guarding our thoughts and our passions controlling.

3 How shall we stray, with Thy hand to direct us,
Thou who the stars in their courses art guiding?
What shall we fear, with Thy power to protect us,
We who walk forth in Thy greatness confiding?

Sending and Blessing

Postlude

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Please depart from the sanctuary as directed by the ushers. You may gather outside on the lawn to share greetings with one another and be socially distant.

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Sources and Credits: Liturgy for today's service comes from or are adapted from: MinistryMatters.com and the Book of Common Worship.