

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP
Thanksgiving Service

November 21, 2023

6:00 PM

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

GATHERING

Prelude

“Thanks Be to God” (Thompson)

Rita Harmon

Call to Worship

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.

Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God’s presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God.

It is God who made us, and we are God’s. We are God’s people and the sheep of God’s pasture.

Enter God’s gates with thanksgiving and God’s courts with praise.

We give thanks to God; we bless God’s name.

For the Lord is good;

God’s steadfast love endures forever and God’s faithfulness is to all generations.

(Psalm 100)

*Hymn of Praise #551

“Come Ye Thankful People, Come”

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

Holy God, you are the God

of abundance, provision, and plenty,

yet so many do not have enough,

so many are burdened by far too much,

so many squander what they have,

so many do evil to get more.

The “many” include us.

Lord, have mercy.

Forgive us when we enjoy the gifts

but do not acknowledge the Giver.

Help us choose

collaboration over competition,

gratitude over greed,

rest over hustle,

generosity over fear.

Help us choose you and your ways, always, merciful God.

Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Friends, believe the good news.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

*Assurance of Pardon Response #447

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Deuteronomy 8:7-18 (Pew Bible OT p.165)

Second Reading

2 Corinthians 9:6-15 (Pew Bible NT p.183)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon from the Pulpit

“The Land and Three Sisters”

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Offering Seeds for the Future

*You are invited to come forward during the offering and
receive a packet of seeds from the basket on the Communion table.*

Reflection

“Interlude on Give Me Jesus” (Lau)

Rita Harmon

Evening Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer (page 16 in hymnal)

*Affirmation of Faith

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

In a broken and fearful world

the Spirit gives us courage

to pray without ceasing,

to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,

to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,

and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,

we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives,

even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,

praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”

***Affirmation of Faith Response #582**

*Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son,
whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen*

***Hymn #559**

“We Gather Together”

***Dismissal**

Rev. Dr. Lynn Miller

May Almighty God bless, preserve, and keep us, this night and forevermore.

Guide us waking, O Lord,

And guard us sleeping;

That awake we may watch with Christ,

And asleep rest in his peace.

Bless the Lord.

The Lord’s name be praised.

***Postlude**

“Praise Him! Praise Him!” (McDonald)

Rita Harmon

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\*Please stand, in body or in spirit.

**Please remember in prayer:**

Roberta Byars; Christopher Scott Henry; Cece Manning; Patsy Spires; Kathy Miller Evans; Trish Tong; Hugh Fincher; Fran Ross; Buck Jolley; Justina Eddy.



QR code for electronic contributions:

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# LIMESTONE

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PC(USA)

WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF A LOVING GOD,  
GATHERING, GROWING, GIVING, AND GOING TO SERVE,  
TOGETHER



Vincent van Gogh. **Four Sunflowers Gone to Seed.** 1887.  
Kroller-Mueller Museum, Otterlo, The Netherlands.

**“The seed is in the ground.  
Now may we rest in hope  
While darkness does its work.”  
--Wendell Berry**