

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH      The Apostles' Creed**

**HYMN                      "Come, Ye Thankful People Come"**

Come, ye thankful people, come; Raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in Ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our Maker, doth provide For our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; Raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, Fruit unto his praise to yield,  
Wheat and tares together sown, Unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, Then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we Wholesome grain and pure may be.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

L: Hear our prayers, O Lord. **P: And let our cry come unto Thee.**  
L: Let us bless the Lord! **P: Thanks be to God.**

**PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION/SENDING\*\***

L: We will go now into God's world:  
**P: to bring healing to the sick and hope to the despairing.**  
L: We will go now to serve Jesus' sisters and brothers:  
**P: to offer a hand to those who have fallen,  
to put a warm coat around those who shiver in the cold.**  
L: We will go now to share the Spirit with everyone we meet:  
**P: to be a companion to those in prisons as well as those bound by injustice, to  
bring the cup of grace to every parched soul.**

**CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE:      "God Be With You"**

|                                     |                                       |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| God be with you till we meet again; | God be with you till we meet again;   |
| By his coun-sels guide, uphold you, | "Neath His wings protecting hide you, |
| With His sheep securely fold you;   | Daily manna still provide you;        |
| God be with you till we meet again. | God be with you till we meet again    |

**\*\*© Rev. Thom Shuman      ORGANISTS: John Griffin and Elaine Bilger**  
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**Bethany Presbyterian Church, Johnstown, PA**  
**MORNING WORSHIP November 22nd, 2020 Christ the King**

**CALL TO WORSHIP \*\***

L: We come, for God gathers us here, with that community called faith:  
**P: where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life's water.**  
L: We come, for God welcomes us here into that home called grace:  
**P: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope; where the stranger is embraced  
as the long-lost prodigal.**  
L: We come, for God reunites us here, sisters and brothers in that family called love:  
**P: where the imprisoned model justice, where the sick are cradled in God's  
peace.**

**HYMN                      "All Glory, Laud and Honor"                      #173**

All glory, laud, and honor To thee, Redeemer, King  
To whom the lips of children Made sweet hosannas ring  
Thou art the King of Israel Thou David's royal Son  
Who in the Lord's name comest The King and Blessed One

To Thee, before Thy passion They sang their hymns of praise  
To Thee, now high exalted Our melody we raise  
Thou didst accept their praises Accept the love we bring  
Who in all good delightest Thou good and gracious King

**CALL TO RECONCILIATION\*\***

L: They are the promises stretching back into the dim recesses of time, yet as new as this very moment. When we lose our way, God searches for us until we are found. When we hurt others, God brings healing to all. When we sin, God forgives us. Let us hold these promises close to our hearts, as we confess those things we try to hide.

**UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION\*\***

**We stock the food pantries, but brush aside those who hunger for friendship. We  
give our hand-me-downs away, but overlook those whose hopes have been  
stripped away.  
We glad-hand those just like us, but turn a deaf ear to our neighbors who 'talk  
funny.' Forgive us, Hope of the ages. You persistently search for us in the side  
streets of the world, gathering us up and bringing us home, so we may be  
drenched in the waters of your bottomless pool of forgiveness, watched over by  
your Child, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

## **SILENT PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON\*\***

L: God searches for the lost, **P: and finds us;**

L: God invites the hungry to the table, **P: and feeds us;**

L: God sends Jesus, **P: and frees us from death's prison;**

L: God forgives all who sin, **P: and heals us with mercy and grace.**

L: Friends, Believe the Good News **ALL: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen**

## **GLORIA PATRI**

## **CHURCH NEWS**

## **THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

*(Please greet your neighbor with a virtual hug or handshake or wave saying "The peace of Christ be with you")*

## **REDEDICATION OF SELF AND SUBSTANCE**

**Offertory    Doxology    Prayer of Dedication**

## **LESSONS FROM THE SCRIPTURES**

### **Old Testament Lesson    Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24**

<sup>11</sup>For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. <sup>20</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

**New Testament Lesson    Ephesians 1:15-23** <sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the\* saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

## **Gospel Lesson**

## **Matthew 25:31-46**

<sup>31</sup>"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

## **MESSAGE**

**Denise Ann Todero, CP**

***God is a good worker, but He loves to be helped.***

***Spanish proverb***

## Christmas Poinsettias

Orders are now being accepted for Christmas Poinsettias. The cost is \$8 each and the deadline for orders is December 6<sup>th</sup>. Orders can be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church.

NAME:

# of Poinsettias \_\_\_\_\_ x \$8 Each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory Of:

In Honor Of:

Other:

Given By:

\_\_\_ Pick Up on Christmas Eve

\_\_\_ Pick Up on December 27th