

**Twenty Sixth Day After Pentecost**  
**November 17, 2024**  
**Holy Presence**



In Jesus' day the temple in Jerusalem loomed large, both as a central physical structure in the city and as a powerful symbol of God's presence among the people. It was a major part of Jewish religious life of the time, and the location where it stood remains important for many people today. The disciples would certainly have found it unsettling to listen to

Jesus forecast the temple's destruction. Would it really fall? How could such an important place ever be lost?

We often look to buildings, institutions, and societal structures for stability. But even our surest foundations can fail, and often do. Jesus reminds us that though stability comes and goes, we are not alone amid the changes. When the world comes apart at the seams, when we don't know what will happen next, God accompanies us through it all. Though wars continue, though death is near, Jesus responds, "Do not be alarmed." We are not alone! Through all the endings and beginnings of our shared human life, God goes with us.

When God gathers us around the font for baptism, we are reminded of how Divine Presence has been with people throughout the ages. The words often shared as water is poured into the font recall scenes from the great flood, the deliverance of the Israelites at the Red Sea, and John baptizing Jesus. God has shown up, again and again! These promises of God's presence are still for us, every day that we live. Whenever we find ourselves interacting with water, we have the chance to be reminded that God has claimed us as beloved, and still carries us through life's hard moments. How might you remember your baptism today? Where is God's presence most important for you?

**Presiding Minister:** Rev. Randy Marburger  
**Worship Leader:** Dr. Wendy S. Farone, Vicar

### **Hymns for Sunday**

**Entrance Hymn ELW 749 O God of Love, O King of Peace**

**Hymn of the day ELW 713 O God of Every Nation**

**Communion Hymn ELW 785 When Peace Like a River and  
ELW 757 All My Hope on God Is Founded**

**Sending Hymn ELW 788 If God My Lord Be for Me**

**Communion-** If you need assistance or are unable to come to the communion rail, you can either stand at the step or stay in your seat and Pastor will come to you. If you are unable to receive either the consecrated bread or wine, receiving either one is acceptable.

**Membership-** There are many ways to be connected with our congregation. Everyone is welcome to participate in any and all congregation activities; and anyone baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is welcome to Holy Communion. We welcome your request for membership.

### **Announcements:**

**Don't forget to submit your favorite hymns for a hymn sing during our November 24 worship service.** Please write your 3 favorite hymns on the form and place it in the offering plate, email it to [vicarwendyf@gmail.com](mailto:vicarwendyf@gmail.com), or call it into the office! We can find the hymn# if you remember the first line of the hymn. **We will collect these, find the 3-5 most popular and will sing them during the Nov 24 worship service!**

**Council Meeting** scheduled for Thursday, November 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:30

### **Soup & Sandwich Lunch (Pre-Thanksgiving) and Basket Raffle**

Sunday, Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> after church service. Sign-up sheet in narthex. Basket Raffle will support quilting supplies.

**Interfaith Thanksgiving Worship Service, Tues. Nov 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm** - at Bryan Mawr Church, 2901 State Street, White Oak. See Vicar Wendy or Apryle if you would like to sing in the Community Choir for this service.

How glorious to have our community gather in Thanksgiving of God's bounty!

**Christmas Eve Worship Service-** Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm.

**Thanksgiving Holiday office hours** – The church office will be closed on Wednesday, Nov. 27 and Thursday, Nov. 28. Apryle will have office hours on Tuesday Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday Nov. 29<sup>th</sup>. In case of an emergency, please call Vicar Wendy (412-442-9122) or Pastor Bryte (412-726-5735).

**Coffee Hour on Sunday Dec. 1<sup>st</sup>** will be sponsored by Quilters.

**Festival of Trees** – Theme this year is *Away in the Manger*. Volunteers needed to help make ornaments and to set up on December 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. Please see Daisy, Katrina or Pam to volunteer.

**A Noisy Offering on Sunday November 24<sup>th</sup>** will be taken for Mission Agape. Time to clean out your pocket change! Dollar bills also make noise, just not as loud as coins! All money donated will go towards food items requested by Mission Agape. Vicar Wendy will be taking the confirmands shopping with this money and incorporate it into a confirmation lesson.

**Mission Agape Toy Drive-** We are an official drop off point. Bring unwrapped presents before December 15<sup>th</sup>. Toys can be dropped off Tuesdays, Wednesdays, & Thursdays from 9 – 1.

**Harvest Home and Thanksgiving offerings** – When using your Harvest Home and Thanksgiving envelopes (or any envelope marked Harvest Home or Thanksgiving), please keep in mind that your donation will go to Mission Agape and Meals on Wheels.

**Bible Storytelling** – This Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>, the BS group will be focusing on Mark 14: 27-42. We are nearing the end of St Mark's Gospel. Please join us as we listen to the "old, old story of Jesus and His love". We will discuss what those words mean to us this day. How are we changed by them? Your voice is welcome!

**Faith Library** -The Faith Library is open to everyone! Read, borrow and return. It's free!

**Prayer List October – December 2024**

**Katie** Bachinger, **Jean** Bodenlos, **Jamie** Cunning, **Carol**  
Delullo, Thomas Deren, **Dennis** Dranko, **Joyce** Dupak,  
**Kara** Eaten, **Rose** Gombas, **Jerry** Groves, **Carl** Johnson,  
**Stephanie** Jones, **Clea** Kirkwood, **Lori** Kirkwood, **Donna**  
Konik, **Dale** Lieb, **Angie** Lowe, **Kristen** Mali, **Cindy**  
Mains, **Vervaine** Mains, **Faith** McDonnell, **Larry**  
McDonnell, **Sandy** Morgan, **Tricia** Park, **Kae** Palyo,  
**Colleen** Ray, **Iris** Richards, **Sandy** Seitz, **Betty** Semke,  
**Lisa** Simko, **Jim** Skuhrovec, **Christa** Smith, **Dennis**  
Syska, **Leslie** Stainton, **Lewis** Thompson, **Linda** Weese,  
**Theresa** Zell, **Ali**, **Dolly**, **Linda**