



TRUCKEE LUTHERAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost – November 12, 2023

We invite you to participate in worship, reading the parts in bold print. ♪ means All Sing!
** We invite you to stand, as you are able, for sections marked with an asterisk.*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

WELCOME

Pastor Pat Mecham

This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

*** OPENING PRAYER**

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*** ♪ GATHERING SONG – “My Hope is Built on Nothing Else”**

Congregation

*** PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Time for silence and reflection

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. **Amen.**

*** SHARING OF THE LORD’S PEACE**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

All are invited to share the peace of Christ in a way that you feel most comfortable, saying “The peace of Christ be with you.”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song. Lord, open our hearts and minds that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

PSALM**Psalm 78:1-7**

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

**I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,**
things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.

**We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation**
the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might,
and the wonders that he has done.

**He established a decree in Jacob,
and appointed a law in Israel,**
which he commanded our ancestors
to teach to their children;
**that the next generation might know them,
the children yet unborn,**
and rise up and tell them to their children,
**so that they should set their hope in God,
and not forget the works of God,
but keep his commandments.**

EPISTLE READING**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

*** GOSPEL READING Matthew 25:1-13**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel, the Good News of God.

Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION – “A Reason for the Hope”

Pastor Pat Mecham

♪ SONG IN RESPONSE – “If You but Trust in God to Guide You”

Congregation

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

DEDICATION OF OFFERINGS AND PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

Merciful Father,

we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our
possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Pat Mecham

Please conclude your prayer with "Lord, in your mercy," and all will respond, "Hear our prayer."

*** LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

*** THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

*** GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*** INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

♪ **COMMUNION SONG – "Just as I Am, Without One Plea"**

Congregation

*** PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and
drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim
your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

* ♪ **SENDING SONG – "Love Devine, All Loves Excelling"**

Congregation

PREPARING FOR OUR MISSION IN THE WORLD – ANNOUNCEMENTS *Birthdays/Anniversaries*

We are called to make Christ known by our words and actions - in our church, in our local community, and throughout the world.

* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

We go nowhere by accident.

Wherever we go, God is sending us. Wherever we are, God has put us here; God has a purpose in our being here.

Christ who indwells you has something he wants to do through you, right where you are. Believe this, and go in God's grace and love and power! **Amen!**

* POSTLUDE

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We thank Pastor Pat Mecham for leading our worship service today!

A big *THANK YOU* to everyone who has completed and submitted a Stewardship Promise Card! We are filled with gratitude for your support in the past and for your continued faithfulness to God and God's church. **If you haven't yet had a chance to complete and submit your Stewardship Promise card, please do so before next Sunday, November 19... THANK YOU!!**

We invite all to join us by giving to the ministry of TLPC. **We thank everyone who generously supports this ministry.** Gifts may be made online through our website at TLPC.org or mailed to: **Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church, PO Box 10620, Truckee, CA 96162**

Our congregation has a heart for missions: locally, nationally, and in God's world. With your support we give to Sierra Community House (Hunger Relief, Crisis Intervention & Prevention, Family Support & Community Engagement, Mediation & Legal Assistance); North Tahoe-Truckee Homeless Services; Healthy Babies; International Health Partners Tanzania; Hands of Hope Zimbabwe; youth service trips to Nicaragua and Alaska; adult disaster trips locally and around the world; and the responsible, vigorous mission work of the Presbyterian Church USA and Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in our nation and world. Additionally, during the pandemic, our congregation has supported local essential workers.

Truckee Lutheran Presbyterian Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Washoe people, and we give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this country their home.



MY HOPE IS BUILT ON NOTHING LESS

Verse 1:

My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.

Verse 2:

When darkness veils his lovely face,
I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev'ry high and stormy gale
my anchor holds within the veil.

Refrain

Verse 4:

When he shall come with trumpet sound,
oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone,
redeemed to stand before the throne!

Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797-1874, alt.

IF YOU BUT TRUST IN GOD TO GUIDE YOU

Verse 1:

If you but trust in God to guide you
with gentle hand through all your ways,
you'll find that God is there beside you
when crosses come, in trying days.
Trust then in God's unchanging love;
build on the rock that will not move.

Verse 3:

The Lord our restless hearts is holding,
in peace and quietness content.
We rest in God's good will unfolding,
what wisdom from on high has sent.
God, who has chosen us by grace,
knows very well the fears we face.

Verse 4:

Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving,
offer your service faithfully.
Trust heaven's word; though undeserving,
you'll find this promise true to be.
This is our confidence indeed:
God never fails in time of need.

Text: Georg Neumark, 1621-1681; tr. composite

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JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA

Verse 1:

Just as I am, without one plea,
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Verse 2:

Just as I am, though tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Verse 3:

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come,

Verse 4:

Just as I am; thy love unknown
has broken ev'ry barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871

LOVE DIVINE, ALL LOVES EXCELLING

Verse 1:

Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Verse 2:

Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev'ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.

Verse 4:

Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav'n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788