

**THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY *after* PENTECOST
CONSECRATION SUNDAY
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023**

Watch live: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bB3NT_3C_O0

PRELUDE

Behold Our God – Jonathan Baird
Steven Eliya, Piano
Linda Sweetman Waters, Organ

WELCOME *and* ANNOUNCEMENTS ~ Rev. Bruce Ballantine

200 Seconds ~ Marjorie Vanacore

CALL *to* WORSHIP

O come, let us sing to the Lord
and shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!

**Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving,
singing joyful songs of praise.**

*HYMN 464 – *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

PRAYER *of* CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, we understand that you call us to be the stewards of your abundance, the caretakers of all you have entrusted to us. Forgive us when we fail to use your gifts wisely. Forgive us when we fail to share them generously. May our faithful stewardship bear witness to the love of Christ in our lives. We pray this with grateful hearts in Jesus' name.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE *of* FORGIVENESS

*GLORIA PATRI – HYMN 579

*PASSING *of the* PEACE

MUSICAL OFFERING

All Ye Servants of the Lord -Robert Elmore
Text from Psalms 133 and 134
The Chancel Choir and Linda Sweetman Waters, Organ
Dr. Edward Schmiedecke, Director

All ye servants of the Lord, praise the Lord, ye that dwell in the house of the Lord, even in the courts of the house of our God. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord. Behold, how good and joyful a thing it is for brethren to dwell together in unity! It is like as the dew of Hermon which fell upon the hill of Sion, for there the Lord that made heaven and earth promised His blessing and life forevermore. All ye servants of the Lord, praise the Lord, even in the courts of the house of our God. Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MaryEllen Castaldo ~ Director of Children *and* Family Ministries

OLD TESTAMENT READING ~ Rev. Bruce Ballantine

Esther 4:10-14

GOSPEL READING ~ Rev. Bruce Ballantine

Luke 19:1-10

SERMON ~ Rev. Brooks Smith

EZ Christianity



venmo

CALL to OFFERING

Please venmo @FirstPres-RidgewoodNJ,
drop your offering in the plate on your way out,
or mail check to the church. Thank you!



venmo

MUSICAL OFFERING

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing - arr. Mark Hayes

Taken from John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

Carol Schmiedecke, Mezzo-Soprano and Linda Sweetman Waters, Piano

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above; praise His name - I'm fixed upon it - name of God's redeeming love. Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come; and I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; He, to rescue me from danger, bought me with His precious blood. O, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee; prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD'S PRAYER

Remembering the world that God so loves, we pray to the Maker of heaven and earth, saying:

Let your will be done, **on earth as in heaven.**

We pray for the church. Enable us to join in Christ's own intercession,
continually praying for the church and world, ever seeking your salvation for all.

Silent Prayers

Let your will be done, **on earth as in heaven.**

We pray for the world. Restore the fortunes of the oppressed.
Let captives find freedom and refugees come home, with songs of gladness and shouts of joy.

May wars cease to the ends of the earth and its victims heal from the scars of war.

We pray for the people of Ukraine, Israel, Gaza, Lebanon and Sudan.

Silent Prayers

Let your will be done, **on earth as in heaven.**

We pray for our communities. Come and dwell with us, to bless and keep us.
Save the strong from the perils of their pride, and let the weak find refuge in your presence.

Silent Prayers

Let your will be done, **on earth as in heaven.**

We pray for loved ones. Have mercy upon those who need your help.
Draw near to them with compassion, and give them the faith they need to endure.

Silent Prayers

Let your will be done, **on earth as in heaven.**

Sovereign God, keep us watching and working for the promise of your heavenly realm,
until all the earth rejoices at your coming in glory; through Jesus Christ, the Lord of life.

And now we are bold to pray as Jesus taught us:

**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 391 — *Take My Life and Let It Be*

COMMITMENT TIME *and* BENEDICTION

CHANCEL FLOWERS

Chancel Flowers are given today by Don and Mary Weyant in memory of William C. Ruffle.

and

*Chancel Flowers are also given by the Magrath family
in celebration of Jo-Ann and Dwight Massey's 70th Anniversary.
They were married here in our beautiful sanctuary on November 21, 1953!*

*Please stand if you are able.

ABOUT TODAY'S PREACHER

Rev. Brooks Smith attended Wesleyan University, University of Chicago, Colgate Rochester Divinity School and the New University. He was ordained in 1971 and has served pastorates in Ohio, Allentown, PA, and then in North Plainfield, NJ for 29 years. Current interests focus on immigration, strategic philanthropy, and international development, especially in Central America.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

for SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Esther:4.10-14

¹⁰ Then Esther spoke to Hathach and gave him a message for Mordecai, saying, ¹¹ “All the king’s servants and the people of the king’s provinces know that if any man or woman goes to the king inside the inner court without being called, there is but one law—all alike are to be put to death. Only if the king holds out the golden scepter to someone, may that person live. I myself have not been called to come in to the king for thirty days.” ¹² When they told Mordecai what Esther had said, ¹³ Mordecai told them to reply to Esther, “Do not think that in the king’s palace you will escape any more than all the other Jews. ¹⁴ For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this.”

GOSPEL READING

Luke 19:1-10

¹ He entered Jericho and was passing through it. ² A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” ⁶ So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. ⁷ All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” ⁸ Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” ⁹ Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. ¹⁰ For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

464

HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7 D

Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
Adapt. Edward Hodges (1796-1867); alt.

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore Thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
2. All Thy works with joy sur - round Thee, Earth and heaven re - flect Thy rays,
3. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus Which the morn - ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore Thee, Open - ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round Thee, Cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Love di - vine is reign - ing o'er us, Join - ing all in heav - en's plan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; Drive the gloom of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, Flower - y mea - dow, flash - ing sea,
Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, Vic - tors in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, Fill us with the light of day.
Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, Call us to re - joice in Thee.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward In the tri - umph song of life.

Take My Life

HENDON 7.7.7

Frances Ridley Havergal, 1874

H. A. César Malan, 1827

1. Take my life, and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee.
 2. Take my hands, and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love.
 3. Take my voice, and let me sing, Al - ways, on - ly, for my King.
 4. Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with-hold;

Take my mo - ments and my days; Let them flow in
 Take my feet, and let them be Swift and beau - ti -
 Take my lips, and let them be Filled with mes - sa -
 Take my in - tel - lect, and use Ev - ery power as

cease - less praise, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
 ful for Thee, Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee,
 ges from Thee, Filled with mes - sa - ges from Thee.
 Thou shalt choose, Ev - ery power as Thou shalt choose.

5. Take my will, and make it Thine;
 It shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is Thine own;
 It shall be Thy royal throne,
 It shall be Thy royal throne.

6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
 At Thy feet its treasure store.
 Take myself, and I will be
 Ever, only, all for Thee,
 Ever, only, all for Thee.