

September 29, 2024

"The Lord will quide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame. You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail." ~ Isaiah 58:11

The Service of the Lord's Day Order of Worship

*Please stand if you are able. Congregation to recite bolded passages.

WELCOME Pastor Jenn

PRELUDE

"Ave Verum" by W.A. Mozart

Valerie Adelung

OPENING WORDS

Pastor Jenn

In times of joy and in times of struggle, we gather as a community of faith.

We come seeking God's presence, guidance, and strength.

We are called to turn to God and one another,

offering support and compassion in times of need.

Let us open our hearts to God's Word,

and to the voices of those around us.

Together, let us worship and serve our loving God,

who calls us to be a community of care and compassion.

John Snead

OPENING PRAYER

Jesus, we come into your presence from many different places. We come with songs of joy and shouts of gratitude. We come carrying heavy burdens and sighs of suffering. As you welcome us into Your house, lift our burdens and receive our praise. Salt us with your grace and flavor us with your mercy. Bind us together, that we may be at peace with one another and be strengthened to go forth in service to the world. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

John Snead

As we reflect on our lives and our relationships with God and one another, let us take a moment to examine our hearts. Have we turned away from God's guidance? Have we overlooked the needs of those around us? Let us confess our shortcomings, trusting in God's unfailing love and forgiveness.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Snead

Merciful God, we confess that we have often turned away from you and from those who need our help. We have been consumed by our own concerns, neglecting the cries of others. Forgive us for the times we have been deaf to your call to serve. Forgive us for the missed opportunities to be your hands and feet in this world. Help us to turn back to you and to reach out to others with compassion and love. Renew our spirits and strengthen our resolve to follow your ways. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

(Silence is kept)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor Jenn

Hear the good news: God's love is unfailing, and God's mercy is abundant.

In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live in grace.

As God has turned to us in love, let us turn to one another with compassion and grace.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI # 581

Glory be to the Father,
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen, Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Pastor Jenn

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

and also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John Snead

Holy God, as we prepare to hear your Word, we ask that you quiet our minds and open our hearts. Speak to us through these ancient texts that we might hear your message for us today. Amen.

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 58:6-11 John Snead

"Is not this the kind of fasting I have chosen:
to loose the chains of injustice

and untie the cords of the yoke, to set the oppressed free and break every yoke?

Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter—when you see the naked, to clothe them,

and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?

Then your light will break forth like the dawn, and your healing will quickly appear;

then your righteousness will go before you, and the glory of the Lord will be your rear guard.

Then you will call, and the Lord will answer; you will cry for help, and he will say: Here am I. "If you do away with the yoke of oppression, with the pointing finger and malicious talk, and if you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday. The Lord will guide you always; he will satisfy your needs in a sun-scorched land and will strengthen your frame.

You will be like a well-watered garden, like a spring whose waters never fail.

SPECIAL MUSIC Valerie Adelung

SCRIPTURE James 5:13-16 Pastor Jenn

Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray. Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective.

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

MEDITATION Pastor Jenn

MINISTRY IN ACTION

Linda S. Lotz, Executive Director, Assistance Center of Towson Churches

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Pastor Jenn

As we have received God's grace and the support of our community, let us now consider how we can extend that same grace and support to others. Our offerings are one way to reach out to those in need, both within our congregation and beyond. Let us give generously, knowing that our gifts can bring comfort, hope, and practical assistance to those facing difficult times.

Besides donating by placing your donation in the plates by the doors, you may also donate online or mail a check to the church. More information can be found at the back of the bulletin.

*DOXOLOGY #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Pastor Jenn

Gracious God, we offer these gifts as a symbol of our gratitude and our commitment to serving others. Bless and multiply our offerings so that they may bring help and hope to those in need. Use our gifts, and use us, to be your hands and feet in this world. May our giving inspire us to continue turning toward you and towards our neighbors, sharing your love in tangible ways. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN # 320

"The Church of Christ in Every Age"

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Jenn

POSTLUDE

"A Joyful Trumpet" by Patricia Lou Harris

Valerie Adelung

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to our liturgist: John Snead Thank you to our usher: Elaine DePoy

HAVENWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Jenn DiFrancesco, Supply Pastor
The Rev. Cathy Bashore, Parish Associate
Susan Riegger, Preschool Director
Valerie Adelung, Music Director
Jake Miller, Worship Technology Coordinator
Julia Wells, Administrator
Lloyd Martin, Facilities Manager

SESSION

Sharon Huber-Plano – Clerk of Session

Judi Forrester – Personnel Committee

Judy Binkley – Worship Committee

Wende Smith – Preschool Committee

Chip Hurley – Stewardship Committee

Donna Marshall – Scouts Liaison

DEACONS

Susan Bond

Elaine DePoy

Arden Quick

Barbara Reade

Jane Shaffer

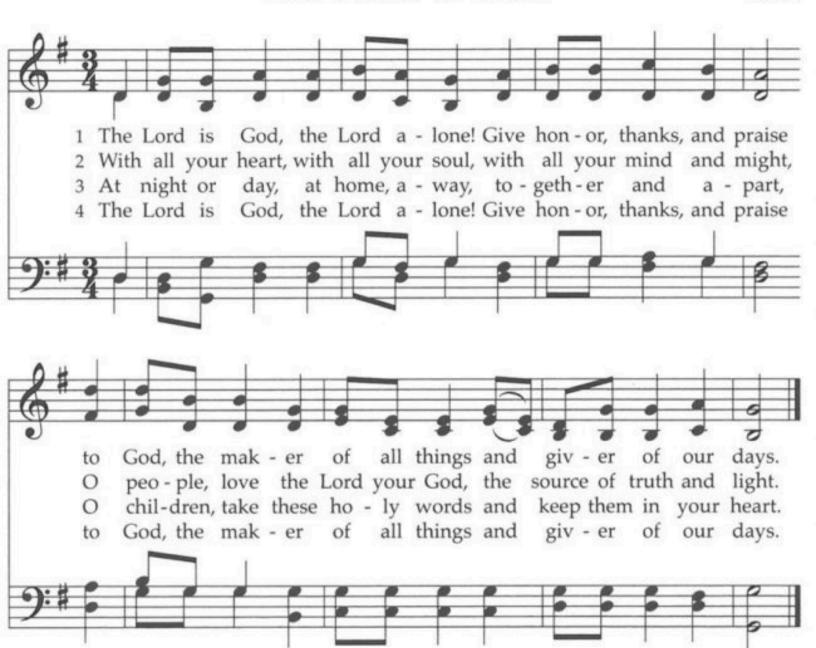
Judy Yeager





The Lord Is God

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This hymn paraphrases the *Shema* (Deuteronomy 6:4–9), an ancient and central affirmation of Jewish monotheistic faith that observant Jews still recite twice a day. Jesus knew it well and called it the first and great commandment (Matthew 22:38/Mark 12:28–29/Luke 10:26–28).

TEXT: David Gambrell, 2011

MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

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AZMON CM

CCLI# 1296903



In this challenging text by a British Methodist minister, the odd-numbered stanzas develop the image of "the servant church," while the second surveys the many needs and the fourth describes the true source of strength for the task.