

Northside Presbyterian Church – November 8, 2020

GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

INTROIT – “Bless the Lord, O My Soul”

CALL TO WORSHIP

Are you awake? Are you alert?

Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

Are you watching the signs?

Are you attentive to the stirrings of the Spirit?

Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

Do you see opportunities for ministry?

Do you see the poor, the homeless, the hungry, the needy?

Christ is coming into our lives in a new way.

Christ has extended the invitation:

Let us work together to usher in the reign of God on earth.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord, we are always seeking guidance for the journey you have placed us on. We would like it if everything was spelled out so that we knew what to expect. But that's not the way life works. You remind us, in the story of the ten bridesmaids, that we should always be ready to seek you and to serve you. Open our hearts today and remind us of your awesome love for us throughout all the generations, for we ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

HYMN - “What is the World Like” # 771 (verses 3, 4, 5)

- 3 **What is the world like when God's will is done?
No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
Peace thrives in places where once there was none.
This is how God works when rivalries end.**
- 4 **What is the world like when God's will is done?
Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
Tending our lamps till the new day's begun.
This is how God readies us for the light.**
5. **These are the stories that Jesus imparts,
Filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
This is a new world where God's will is done.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

Ten lamps gathered, with oil enough for all.

Ten lamps gathered,
But five are empty showing careless disregard,
While five more shine bright with oil abundant enough to share.

Ten lamps gathered,
But five flames grow lifeless when laziness and greed collide.

Ten lamps gathered...
How many will glow tonight?

CONFESSION OF SIN (UNISON)

Creator God, giver of oil, hear us as we pray...

For generous hearts to share oil with our neighbors.

Creator God, giver of oil, hear us as we pray...

For the vision necessary to leave our comfortable seats in search of oil.

Creator God, giver of oil, hear us as we pray...

For forgiveness for the ways our selfishness and our apathy collide.

Ten lamps gathered, with oil enough for all.

May we open our hands to share.

May we open our eyes to keep watch.

May the flames of our faith never flicker.

May the light of our love illumine our path. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

There's a light that shines even in the deepest darkness, and nothing absolutely nothing, can extinguish it. Friends, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

GOSPEL – Psalm 78:1-7 – Charles Bostian

OFFERING OF MUSIC - “Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

NEW TESTAMENT– Matthew 25:1-13

SERMON - **“Wake Up!”** - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

GO IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN*- "Longing for Light. We Wait in Darkness" #314 (verses 1, 2, 5)

**1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, Light for the world to see.**

Refrain: **Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. (Refrain)**

**5 Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. (Refrain)**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION*

CLOSING SONG: "Call Down a Blessing" with "peace" as the blessing we're seeking.

**Call down a blessing. .Call down a blessing, Call down a blessing. Call down. (2 x)
Peace before us, Peace behind us, Peace within us, and around us.
Call down a blessing, Call down a blessing, Call down a blessing. Call down. (2x)**

Please be in prayer for:

Revathi Balakrishnan	Drew Taylor	Rev. Brian Miles (pastor, Amherst PC)
Susan Dickerson	Edd Stoops	
Hazel Hale	Wendi Hamilton	
Doug Rathjen	Kelly Wimmer (her mother is nearing death)	
Patrick Cole	Mary Lough	
Phyllis Garnett-Deakin and Family (her Mother died this week)	Andy Robeson Bonnie Church	

From our friends at Fairlawn Presbyterian Church:

Joyce Walker	Pastor Allison Unroe	All the children around the world
Bonnie Weddle	Drew Taylor	Don Sheffey
Bettie Kirk	Eli Taylor	

Today's musicians: Marya Katz, Charles Bostian, Ann Marie Conner, Jack Webster, Pat Fullen
Video Technician – Marshall Chaney