

Wycliffe

November 22, 2026
Rev. Dr. Garrett Bugg, *pastor*
Rev Dr. Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam, *associate*

"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty! *(Revelation 1:8)*

The Wycliffe Ringers ***"Somebody's Knocking at Your Door"*** *arr. K. McChesney*

Let us Worship

"**Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow**" *(stand in body or spirit & sing)*

*__Psalm 100__ *(all read the bold)*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to God; bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever
and his faithfulness to all generations.

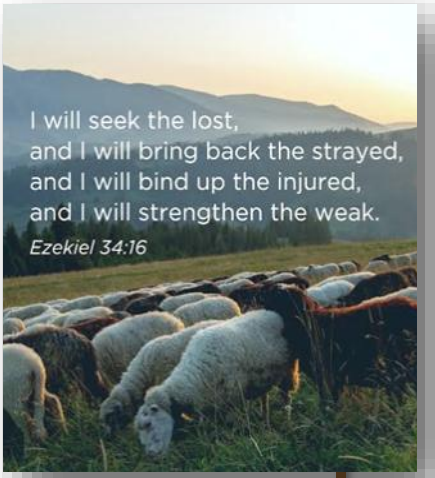
*__Hymn 268__ "**Crown Him with Many Crowns**" *(stand in body or spirit and sing)*

Share the Peace of Christ

Welcome & Announcements

Children's Time with the Pastor

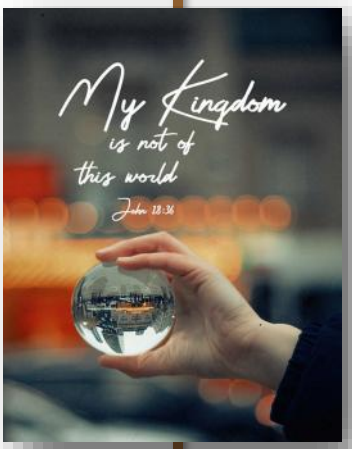
Hear these words from the Prophet Ezekiel *(34:11-16, NIV)*



"This is what the Sovereign Lord says:
I myself will search for my sheep and look after them.
As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land.

I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land and they will feed in rich pastures. I will search for the lost and bring back strays, and I'll bind up the injured and strengthen the weak.

But the sleek and strong, I will destroy. And I will judge between one sheep and another and will place one shepherd over them, my servant David. He will tend them, and I will be their God."



Not of This World *(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

"My kingdom is not of this world," said Jesus. Not meaning far from here, or in some other dimension, but looking around at the trappings of power: not THIS world, not this KIND of world: the world of fear and dominion, of power and violence, the world of privilege and exclusion, of hierarchies and judgments, a world of 'deserving.'

"My realm is a world of grace and mystery. a world of kindness and tender beauty."

So no need to worry about YOUR throne. Jesus doesn't want it.

Yet his kingdom does invade, sneaks past the guards, escapes all armies, evades the stoutest defenses. For the Realm of Grace infuses this world, seeps into every dimension and prevails forever, overcoming all fear, overpowering all might.

You'll keep your throne, wield your power, play cruel games - but it will amount to nothing. "My Realm is forever."

"I Am Not My Own" *(C. Courtney / Stephanie Harron, trumpet)*

Casting Shadows: A Confession *(all read the bold)*



I saw this truth:
the anger and wrath we perceive to be of God,
lies in ourselves alone,
a shadow which *we* cast upon our Lord (and then disown).

In error, we believe that he has cast a shadow over us;
one of judgement, condemnation, suffering for every failure, every sin,
and every evil thing we think we're guilty of.

But never our Lord!
His goodness, truth and love, his power and peace preclude all anger;
and between our soul and him, no wrath intervenes,
no matter how dark or dreadful be the hour.

(Julian of Norwich. 1343-1416)

All sing ***"Take, O Take Me as I Am"*** *(screen, or p.698-hymnal)*

"The Assurance of God's Grace & Pardon

. . . *and all say* ***Thanks be to God.***



Matthew 25:31-46
The Word of God is Opened to Us
Rev. Dr. Garrett Bugg

Hymn 443 "There is a Redeemer"
(remain seated & sing)

The Prayers of the People
followed by
The Lord's Prayer *(on the screen)*



The Sacrament of Holy Communion

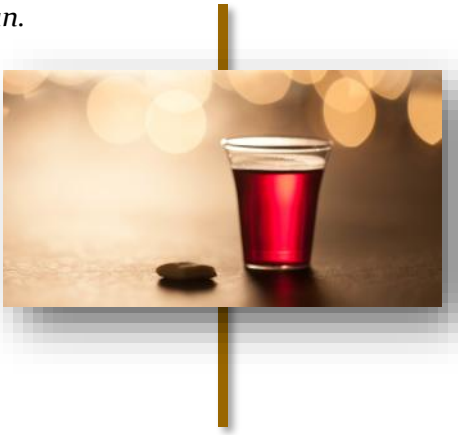
Throughout his ministry, we often see Jesus at a table, and at his last supper with his disciples, he again spoke of a time when he would meet around a table with them.

The world begins at a table, for no matter what, we must eat to live. The gifts of earth are brought & prepared, set on the table. And so it has been since creation, and it will go on.

We chase chickens or dogs away from it. Babies teethe at the corners & scrape knees under it. Children are given instructions on what it means to be human. Men are made at it; and so are women. At this table we gossip, recall enemies and even the ghosts of lovers.

Our dreams drink coffee with us here, put their arms around our children & laugh with us at our poor falling-down selves as we put ourselves back together ~ again at the table.

This table has been a house in the rain, an umbrella in the sun.
Wars have begun and ended at a table; a place to hide
in the shadow of terror; a place to celebrate,
for at this table we sing in both joy & sorrow.

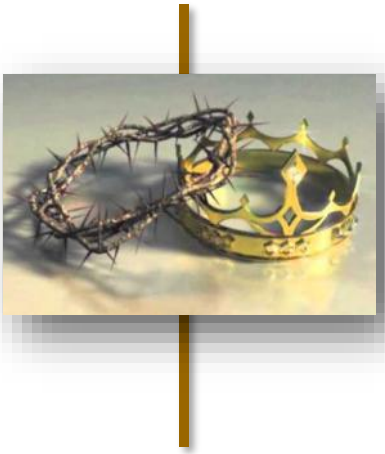


Perhaps the world will end at the table, while we are laughing and crying, eating the last sweet bite.

But today, we are called to eat & drink here in the glorious company of Jesus who has gone to prepare that final table.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you - **and also with you.**
Lift up your heart - **we lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God - **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**



Every atom proclaims your glory;
the smallest creature and highest mountain
attest to your creative genius.
Though we cannot hear them, the valleys sing for joy
and the hills skip like lambs.

So with all creation, with angels and saints,
and those who once sat beside us who are now guests
at your heavenly banquet, we sing:

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee!
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea.
Only Thou art holy, there is none beside Thee;
Perfect in power, in love and purity!

Blessed is Jesus, born among us as a stranger,
who grew up without privilege or status,
and told the deepest truths in ordinary language,
who touched and healed, blessed and disturbed
without fear or favor; and who, for all this,
was crucified, died and was buried,
and rose again;
and who now, though high in heaven,
is present with us here and now.

"Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
how great Thou art; how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God to Thee;
how great Thou art; how great Thou art!



The Bread and Cup are Shared

Please come forward at the direction of the usher.
If you prefer to receive the elements in your seat, let the usher know.
Please discard your cup in the receptacles available on the outside walls of the front-row pews.
Gluten-free bread is also available.

***Hymn 354 "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory"** *(stand in body or spirit & sing)*

***The Benediction**

Join us for coffee & conversation in the fellowship hall
(to the left as you leave the sanctuary)

Giving to the Mission & Ministry of Wycliffe

Giving is a natural overflow of a heart that is grateful for Jesus, who gave everything for us. A basket is available on the table as you leave the sanctuary for contributions of checks or cash. A secure link for electronic giving is available on the church's website at www.wycliffepresbyterian.org

The writers of the readings in today's service are noted, with the exception of American Poet Laureate Joy Harjo (b. 1951) whose poem "Perhaps the World Ends Here" provides the basis of the invitation to the Sacrament of Communion.

Today's sanctuary flowers are given by Bren Bowman
in memory of Katie and Joey

This Week at Wycliffe



Nov 26-27 *(Thurs-Fri): Church office closed for Thanksgiving*
Nov 29 *(Sun): Poinsettia orders due today! (all white, 8-in, $20 each, sign up – narthex)*

Looking Ahead

Dec 5 *(Sat, 9:00-11:00am): "Deck the Halls" ~ all are welcome to help decorate the church!*
Dec 5 *(Sat, 9:00-11:00am): Kids' Club (preK-4s– 5th gr) - crafts, decorate tree, FUN!*
Dec 6 *(Sun, 10:00am): Youth Sunday*
Dec 6 *(Sun): Angel Tree Gifts due (please wrap & attach the 'ornament' label to the gift)*
Dec 7 *(Mon by 3:30pm): Christmas Basket Foods and/or funds due*
Dec 12 *(7:30am): Men's Breakfast & Bible Study (Sunrise Café)*
Dec 12 *(9:00am): Church Work Day (bring rakes & blowers if you have them)*
Dec 13 *(10:00am): Children's Christmas Pageant (all children are invited to be a part!)*
Dec 13 *(after worship): Cookie Swap! (drop off your best, plated; after worship, enjoy!)*
Dec 13 *(5:00pm): Church Family Caroling to the homebound (everyone is welcome!)*

Service Opportunities



Church Work Day *~ Many hands make light work and with jobs for all ages, and falling leaves galore, there's plenty to do. Saturday, Dec 12 (rain date: Dec 19)*

Office Volunteers *~ Great News! The new church administrator will begin soon, but if you have a few November hours to spare to answer phones, greet guests & check email, please sign up on the chart at the reception desk.*

Keep Your Extras Home, Please ! *~ In this season of Angel Tree gifts and Holiday Food Basket collections, the Christian Service & Mission team kindly asks that you HOLD any general household goods that you might be ready to give for those in need. CS&M are up to their ears with the two specific holiday drives and storage space is limited. They look forward to your generosity AFTER December 10.*

Holiday Mission Opportunities

Angel Tree ~*To give a local child a merrier Christmas, choose an "ornament" and purchase the item listed, wrap it & return to the tree by Sunday, Dec 6 WITH THE ORIGINAL REQUEST TAG attached.*
VB Social Services has shared extra tags! *If you missed out the first time, do check the tree in the fellowship hall again.*
Questions? See Ashley Miller





Christmas Food Baskets ~
Thanksgiving baskets are well on their way. Now it's time for Christmas baskets! Foods and/or financial assistance is due by Dec 7.

Check the church website for the foods list (on the Events/Opportunities page).
Questions? See Jennifer McNeill or Ashley Miller



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Advent I - Hope

Sunday, November 29 ~ Worship at 10:00am ~ "Keep Awake"

Saturday, December 5 - "Deck the Hall" from 9:00am-11:00am
with "Kids' Club" (same time) with special activities for 4s-5th grade

Advent II - Peace

Sunday, December 6 - Worship at 10:00am - "Prepare the Way"
Youth Sunday with Wycliffe's Instrumental Ensemble

Advent III - Love

Sunday, December 13 - Worship at 10:00am - "Among You Stands One"
featuring the Wycliffe Ringers and the Children's Christmas Pageant
"Cookie Swap" after worship
5:00pm ~ Church Family Caroling! (all are invited)

Advent IV - Joy

Sunday, December 20- Worship at 10:00am - "Let It Be With Me"
Special Music with the Wycliffe Choir
Yuletide Tunes & Treats at 6:00pm (Ballyhoos, 2865 Lynnhaven Dr)
"The Longest Night" *(for those who grieve)* at 7:00pm - Wycliffe's Facebook page

Christmas Eve

Thursday, December 24
Children's Celebration at 3:00pm where every child receives a Christmas blessing
"Candlelight, Carols & Communion - 5:00pm featuring the Harbor String Quartet (4:40p)

The First Sunday in Christmas

Sunday, December 29 - 10:00am worship with a *Christmas Lessons & Carols*