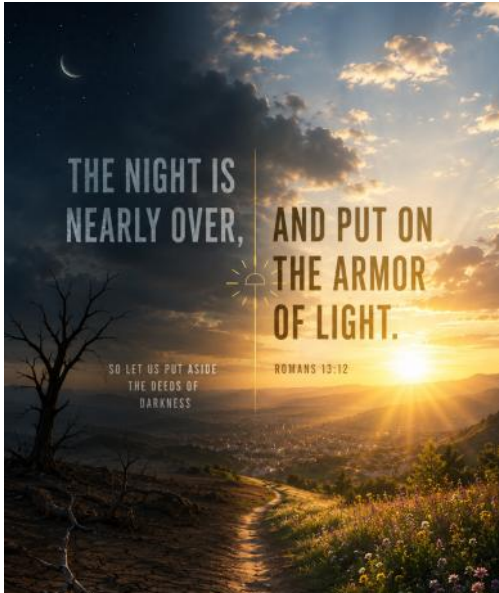




Wycliffe

September 6, 2026

Rev. Dr. Garrett Bugg, pastor

Rev. Dr. Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam, associate

Gardeners know the importance of good root development before leaves & flowers emerge. So, too, our life in God should be deeply rooted and grounded before we presume to produce flowers & fruits; lest we risk shooting up into one of those lanky plants which can never do without a stick. (C. Spurgeon)

LET US WORSHIP

***PRAISE GOD, FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW** (*stand in body or spirit & sing*)

*** FROM PSALM 24** (*all read the bold*)

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
The world and all who live in it belong to God.

God founded the earth upon the seas and established it upon the waters.
All creation bears witness to the goodness of its Creator.

Lift up your heads and open your hearts. The King of glory comes among us.
Who is this King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty—the God who made us and all creation.
Let us worship the Lord, the King of glory!

***HYMN 14 "FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH"**

*~ Share the Peace of Christ ~
Welcome & Announcements
Children's Time with the Pastor*

**denotes a place to stand in body or spirit*

Hear these words from the Genesis (1:26-31, the Message)

God spoke: “Let us make human beings in our image, make them reflecting our nature. So they can be responsible for the fish in the sea, the birds in the air, the cattle, and, yes, earth itself, and every animal that moves on the face of Earth.” God created human beings; he created them godlike, reflecting God’s nature. He created them male and female. God blessed them: “Prosper! Reproduce! Fill Earth! Take charge! Be responsible for fish in the sea and birds in the air, for every living thing that moves on the face of earth.” Then God said, “I’ve given you every sort of seed-bearing plant on Earth and every kind of fruit-bearing tree, given them to you for food. To all animals and all birds, everything that moves and breathes, I give whatever grows out of the ground for food.” And there it was. God looked over everything he had made; it was so good, so very good! It was evening, it was morning—Day Six.



ALL SING “LORD HAVE MERCY” (screen)

A TIME OF CONFESSION *(all read the bold)*

Creator God, you gave us a world that takes our breath away—sunlight on the water, trees stretching toward the sky, the wonder of life all around us. Yet we treat your gifts as though they were endless and ours alone.

Forgive us, Creator God, and teach us to care.

For the water we let run, the food we waste, the things we throw away, and all the choices we make without considering what they cost your creation.

Forgive us, Creator God, and teach us to care.

And remind us we are part of creation, too. The hurried cashier, the difficult coworker, the lonely neighbor, the person we struggle to understand, all are lives you have made.

Forgive us, Creator God, and teach us to care.

For the times we have been too distracted to notice, too frustrated to listen, too busy to help, or too certain of ourselves to see your image in another

Forgive us, Creator God, and teach us to care.

Give us eyes to see again the goodness of what you have made, and hearts willing to care for this earth and for one another within it.

Forgive us, Creator God, and teach us to care. Amen.

All sing “Lord, Have Mercy” (hymn #579, or on the screen)

THE ASSURANCE OF GOD’S GRACE & PARDON . . . And all say: Thanks be to God.

Romans 13:8-14

The Word of God is Opened to Us
Rev. Dr. Lyndsey McCall-Gilliam

HYMN 372 "O FOR A WORLD"
(remain seated to sing)

A TIME OF PRAYER

concluding with THE LORD'S PRAYER (screen)



THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

In Christ, God gave us a glimpse of the new creation he had already begun and will surely finish. We know we cannot bring in God's kingdom. But hope plunges us into the struggle for victories over evil that are possible now in the world, the church, and our individual lives. Christ calls us to this table to partake not only in bread for the journey, but in his body and blood, in anticipation of the great and joyous feast in his coming Kingdom. From him we receive strength and courage to continue our story with God.

THE PRAYER OF 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 God our thanks and praise.*



*You spoke light in to darkness, filling the earth with life. You put land under our feet.
And so we thank you, O God for everything: Bunnies and butterflies. . .*

That's when God, who loved his child so much, brought him back to life, just as God will give us new life when we die. So now, in this meal, give us a glimpse of your promise: when all creation will be made whole; when what is divided will be reconciled; when justice and peace will meet; and when humanity will live in harmony with one another and the earth you created. Give us hope for the day when suffering will cease, when every person will know they are beloved and nothing will separate us from you or from one another. Until then, keep hope alive in us.

*(all sing) **All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and let us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!***

Spirit of God, you blow through the trees, making the leaves dance; you cool us off on a hot summer day; you whisper in our ears about God's dream for us. So come now and make this bread we're about to eat taste so good we want to share it with everyone we meet. Make the fruit of vine we share so sweet and pure that we want to go out and tell everyone how much God loves them.

(all sing) **All creatures bless the Father, Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One!
Sing Praises! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED

(An usher will direct you to the front to receive the bread & cup (gluten-free bread is available). Please discard the cup in the receptacles at the end of the front rows as you return to your seat. If you prefer to be served in your pew, let the usher know.)

WE AFFIRM OUR FATH (screen)

***HYMN 749 "COME, LIVE IN THE LIGHT"** (stand in body or spirit)

***BENEDICTION**



The sanctuary flowers this Sunday are given to the glory of God



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