

**THE WORSHIP OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
AT SWIFT CHURCH**

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE “Surely the Presence of the Lord”

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Betty Carneal

Leader: People of God, listen;
The Lord has done marvelous things.
Teach your children all that God has done so that they
may live in hope and die in peace.

***HYMN** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” #51

Vs. 1 – Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through
this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; Hold me with thy
pow’rful hand;
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no
more,
Feed me till I want no more.

Vs. 2 – Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the
healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey
through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, Be Thou still my
strength and shield,
Be Thou still my strength and shield.

Vs. 3 – When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Bear me thro’ the swelling current, Land me safe on
Canaan’s side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee,
I will ever give to Thee.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Silent Prayer “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

**Holy and gracious God, you are all light and wonder
and glory.**

**You are our strength and our delight; you give us all
we need to live.**

**Yet we are distracted by all that glitters, continually
grasping for more.**

**Rather than trust in your provision, we chase after
our own happiness.**

Forgive us, Lord, and turn us back to you.

**Overwhelm us with your goodness and cover us with
grace, for we know that you are the source of life, the
fount of all that is good. In the name of Jesus we pray.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***PASSING THE PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

***RESPONSE** “Gloria Patri” #623

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.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 78:1–7

GOSPEL READING Matthew 25:1–13

**please stand as you are able*

RESPONSE

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Gettin’ Ready”

The Rev. Dr. Jerry Blacklaw

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

***HYMN** “The Church’s One Foundation” #277

Vs. 1 – The Church’s one foundation is Jesus Christ her
Lord;
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From heav’n He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He
died.

Vs. 2 – Elect from ev’ry nation, yet one o’er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation one Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with ev’ry grace endued.

Vs. 4 – Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in
One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is
won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with
Thee.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** “The Apostles’ Creed”

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven
and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was
crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he
ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall
come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the
Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion**

of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE 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.

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory "Near to the Heart of God"

***RESPONSE** "Doxology" #625
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below; praise Him above ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER AND DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

SENDING

***HYMN** "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" #92
Vs. 1 – Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, All Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation, Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Vs. 2 – Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, Let us find that promised rest.
Take away our bent to sinning, Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, Set our hearts at liberty.

Vs. 3 – Come, almighty to deliver, Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, Glory in Thy perfect love.

Vs. 4 – Finish then Thy new creation, Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, Lost in wonder, love and praise!

TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

***CHARGE**

Leader: Good people of Swift Church, who are you?
People: Striving to bring God joy, we proclaim Christ's love and grace through serving and nurturing body, mind, and soul.

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE** "Living for Jesus"

Thank you, Chris Rogers, for filling in as the pianist this Sunday.

Please join us for conversation and refreshments in the fellowship hall immediately after the worship service.



Welcome to Swift Church

November 12, 2023

Striving to bring God joy!



We proclaim Christ's love and
grace through serving and nurturing
body, mind, and soul.

Swift Presbyterian Church

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