

**Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church**  
**Order Of Worship**  
**November 15 2020**

**Liturgist: Brad Voyles | Sermon: Rev. John Grady | Lead Musician: Scott Finch**

**Meditation: Psalm 135:1-7**

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord, give praise, O servants of the Lord, who stand in the house of the Lord, in the courts of the house of our God! Praise the Lord, for the Lord is good; sing to his name, for it is pleasant! For the Lord has chosen Jacob for himself, Israel as his own possession. For I know that the Lord is great, and that our Lord is above all gods. Whatever the Lord pleases, he does, in heaven and on earth, in the seas and all deeps. He it is who makes the clouds rise at the end of the earth, who makes lightnings for the rain and brings forth the wind from his storehouses.

**Call To Worship: Psalm 136:1-9**

L: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

**ALL: Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever.**

L: Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever;

**ALL: To him who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever;**

L: To him who spread out the earth above the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever;

**ALL: To him who made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures forever;**

L: The sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures forever;

**ALL: The moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures forever;**

L: This is the Word of the LORD!

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**Opening Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth | 116**

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light;  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony, linking sense to sound and sight,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

4. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

5. For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely giv'n,  
graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

### **Pastoral Prayer Followed by 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, for ever. Amen.

### **Confession of Sin & Assurance of Pardon**

L: Our Father, we confess that we have often been ungrateful for all that you have provided.

**ALL: We find ourselves complaining and whining about your providence. We also have frequently found ourselves valuing the things of this world more than your ordained means of grace.**

L: In fact, we are sometimes surprised with the fatigue we feel because our energies have been expended on our own agendas rather than the callings you have placed on our lives.

**ALL: Forgive us for feeling indifferent to your Holy Spirit's leading and too distracted to heed His voice. We repent of our unfocused minds, our distracted hearts and our unbridled passions.**

L: Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew right spirits within us so that we may be propelled towards deep-seated gratitude.

**ALL: We claim Christ as our propitiation by faith. He is our only hope. He is our only comfort. He is the reason for great thanksgiving.**

L: Sinner, you are forgiven. So take this time to give thanks to Jesus.  
*(time of silent confession and thanksgiving)*

### **Song of Preparation: All I Have Is Christ**

1. I once was lost in darkest night; yet thought I knew the way.  
The sin that promised joy and life had led me to the grave.  
I had no hope that you would own; a rebel to your will,  
and if you had not loved me first, I would refuse you still.
2. But as I ran my hell-bound race, indifferent to the cost,  
you looked upon my helpless state and led me to the cross.  
And I beheld God's love displayed. You suffered in my place;  
you bore the wrath reserved for me. Now all I know is grace.  
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ! Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.
3. Now, Lord, I would be yours alone and live so all might see  
the strength to follow your commands could never come from me.  
O Father, use my ransomed life in any way you choose,  
and let my song forever be, my only boast is you.  
Hallelujah! All I have is Christ! Hallelujah! Jesus is my life.

## Sermon: "Thanksgiving to God"

### Word: 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28

**12** We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, **13** and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves. **14** And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, [c] encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. **15** See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. **16** Rejoice always, **17** pray without ceasing, **18** give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. **19** Do not quench the Spirit. **20** Do not despise prophecies, **21** but test everything; hold fast what is good. **22** Abstain from every form of evil. **23** Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. **24** He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. **25** Brothers, pray for us. **26** Greet all the brothers with a holy kiss. **27** I put you under oath before the Lord to have this letter read to all the brothers. **28** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

### Questions for Reflection

1. In what ways do you give thanks to God? (sitting prayer, walking prayer, write a song, sing a song...)
2. Does giving thanks to God bring you hope? Thanks to another person? How?
3. How does thanksgiving encourage others? (spouse, kids, small group member, an isolated person...)
4. How does giving thanks change you and make you more like Jesus?

### Song of Approach: Spirit of the Living God | 726

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

Break me! Melt me! Mold me! Fill me!

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me. *Repeat*

### Communion

### Sending Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God | 98

1. Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices; who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us, with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us; and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven; the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore; for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

### Benediction: Philippians 4:19-20

And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. . . *so that all the peoples will say...*

**ALL: Amen. Our LORD is faithful. Praise the LORD!**

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