

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
Mills River, North Carolina
The Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost
October 25, 2026

Sacred Place +++ Sacred Space
Please observe silence after the altar candles are lit



PRELUDE *O the Deep, Deep Love for Jesus* *Matt Schinske*

*Hymns and service music are found in the blue 1982 Hymnals (H) and the purple
Glory to God hymnals (GTG) They are in the racks under the chairs.*

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

ENTRANCE HYMN *H #688 A mighty fortress is our God*



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing; for still our an - cient foe
the man of God's own choos - ing; dost ask who that may be?
his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

dost seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

and, armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not his c - qual.
from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
for lo! his doom is sure, one lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still, his king - dom is for ev - er.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be our God.

For ever and ever. Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

GTG #605 Praise to God the Father

Praise to God the Father; praise to God the Son;
praise to God the Spirit: praise to the Three -in-One.
Sing praise. sing praise to the Lord on high.
Praise to God Almighty; praise to the Holy One.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 34:1-12

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the LORD showed him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western Sea, the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. The LORD said to him, “This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, saying, ‘I will give it to your descendants’; I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.” Then Moses, the servant of the LORD, died there in the land of Moab, at the LORD’s command. He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab, opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day. Moses was one hundred twenty years old when he died; his sight was unimpaired and his vigor had not abated. The Israelites wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days; then the period of mourning for Moses. Joshua son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the LORD

had commanded Moses. Never since has there arisen a prophet in Israel like Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face. He was unequaled for all the signs and wonders that the LORD sent him to perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants and his entire land, and for all the mighty deeds and all the terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all Israel.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

PSALM: 90 1-6, 13-17

- ¹LORD, you have been our refuge *
from one generation to another.
- ²**Before the mountains were brought forth,
or the land and the earth were born, ***
from age to age you are God.
- ³You turn us back to the dust and say, *
"Go back, O child of earth."
- ⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past ***
and like a watch in the night.
- ⁵You sweep us away like a dream; *
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- ⁶**In the morning it is green and flourishes; ***
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- ¹³Return, O LORD; how long will you tarry? *
be gracious to your servants.
- ¹⁴**Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning; ***
so shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.
- ¹⁵Make us glad by the measure of the days that you afflicted us *
and the years in which we suffered adversity.
- ¹⁶**Show your servants your works ***
and your splendor to their children.
- ¹⁷May the graciousness of the LORD our God be upon us; *
prosper the work of our hands;
prosper our handiwork.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

Reader

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

H #353 Your love, O God, has called us here

1 Your love, O God, has called us here, for all love
 2 O gra - cious God, you con - se - crate all that is
 3 O God of love, in - spire our life, re - veal your

finds its source in you, the per - fect love that
 love - ly, good, and true. Bless those who in your
 will in all we do; join ev - ery hus - band,

casts out fear, the love that Christ makes ev - er new.
 pres - ence wait and ev - ery day their love re - new.
 ev - every wife in mu - tual love and love for you.

GOSPEL: Matthew 22:34-46

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
 according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the Pharisees heard that [Jesus] had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David." He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet"'? If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON The Rev. Tracey Kelly

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the

Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Sisters and brothers, we humbly bring our prayers before God saying, “We lift our hearts and voices to you; **hear us, good Lord.**”

Celebrant: Almighty God, giver of every good gift: send forth your light and your truth, that they may lead us in discerning who we are as Christ’s church now, and who God is calling us to be in our next season of shared ministry; so guide the hearts and minds of those who shall choose a Bishop for this diocese, that we may receive a faithful shepherd, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins to God.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. **Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant

The peace of Christ be always with you.

People

And also with you.

GATHERING

GTG #504 We Come as Guests Invited

We come as guests invited when Jesus bids us dine,
his friends on earth united to share the bread and wine;
the bread of life is broken; the wine is freely poured
for us, in solemn token of Christ our dying Lord.

We eat and drink, receiving from Christ the grace we need,
and in our hearts believing on him by faith we feed;
with wonder and thanksgiving for love that knows no end,
we find in Jesus living our ever present friend.

One bread is our for sharing, one single fruitful vine,
our fellowship declaring renewed in bread and wine.
renewed, sustained, and given by token, sign, and word,
the pledge and seal of heaven, the love of Christ our Lord.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

OFFERTORY *I Surrender All and Have Thine Own Way* Donna Calhoun
(Handbells- Lisa Singleton; Piano- Ryan Singleton)

PRESENTATION HYMN

WLP #763 As we gather at your table

1. As we gath - er at your
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to

Ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your Word, help us
wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life; send us

know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be
forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is
stirred. Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we
strife. Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for -
claim it as our own; teach us through this ho - ly
give as you for - gave; may we still be - hold your
ban - quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known.
im - age in the world you died to save. to verse 3
3. Gra - cious Spi - rit, help us
sum - mon oth - er guests to share that Feast where tri -
um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and
least. There no more will en - vy blind us nor will
pride our peace des - troy, as we join with saints and
an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People *It is right to give our thanks and praise.*

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things.

You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind.

Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

SANCTUS



Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise.

Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, an offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Dying, you destroyed our death.

Rising, you restored our life.

Christ Jesus, come in glory!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ.

Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise.

Blessed are you now and for ever. AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from

the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

FRACTION ANTHEM

GTG #604 *Lamb of God*



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

COMMUNION INVITATION

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

(The bread and wine are given to the people. Please indicate that you would prefer a gluten-free wafer by placing your hands with palms together when you come up to receive Communion.)

COMMUNION HYMN

H #524 *I love thy kingdom, Lord*



1 I love thy king-dom, Lord, the house of thine a - bode, the
2 For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers a - scend; to
3 Be - yond my high - est joy I prize her heaven - ly ways, her
4 Je - sus, thou friend di - vine, our Sa - vior and our King, thy
5 Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zi - on shall be given the

1 Church our blest Re - deem - er saved with his own pre - cious blood.
2 her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.
3 sweet com - mun - ion, so - lemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.
4 hand from ev - ery snare and foe shall great de - liv - erance bring.
5 bright - est glo - ries earth can yield, and bright - er bliss of heaven.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

BLESSING

RECESSIONAL HYMN

H #657 Love divine, all loves excelling



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to
2 Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy
3 Fi - nish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less

earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - way bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

DISMISSAL

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Bible Study Sundays, 9:15 am
Gentle Yoga with Kelly, Fridays, 9:00 am
Choir Practice, Sun. Oct.25, 9:30 am
Bishop's visit and Confirmation, Sun., Nov. 1, 10:45 am
Men's Breakfast, Sat. Nov. 7th, 9am, Mills River Restaurant
Women's Breakfast, Sat. Nov. 7th, 10 am
The Next Chapter, Tues. Nov. 10, 11:30 am
Evening Book Club, Thurs. Nov. 12, 6:00 pm, Michal Baird's home

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