

November 19, 2023 Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
25th Sunday After Pentecost
Slackwood Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

GATHER TO WORSHIP

As a consideration to all who seek to worship this morning, please turn off or mute cell phones and other electronic devices.

Welcome & Announcements
Lighting of the Peace Candle

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship

L: Lord, you have been our dwelling place;

P: we come today to rest in you.

L: You have been the voice that guides us;

P: we come today to listen.

L: You have been the host who feeds us;

P: we come today to be filled.

L: You have been our joy and crown;

P: we come today to sing your praise!

*Hymn #18 NYANYIKANLAH NYANYIAN BARU
“Hallelujah! Sing Praise to Your Creator”

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

Merciful God, we confess that once again, we have done what is evil in your sight. We've made mistakes. We've made missteps. We have hurt people, by action and inaction. We have wounded creation, by action and inaction. We have chosen our ways over yours, by action and inaction. And if the sum total of what we have done and what we have not done adds up to evil in your sight, then in your sight we ask you to turn us towards goodness. Forgive our past, and shape our future that we might build your kingdom here. In the strong name of Christ, we pray. (Moment of silent prayer). Amen

*Words of Assurance

*Gloria Patri (#581)

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.

(Following the time of confession, young people ages 3 to 10 may leave for a time of lesson and activity.)

HEARING OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading – Psalm 90:1-12

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem arr. A. Thomas

“Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning”

Second Scripture Reading – 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon “Children of the Day” Bailie Gregory

*Affirmation of Faith (adapted from the Confession of 1967)

God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of our life. It is the will of God that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

*Hymn #377

HOUSTON

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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.

Call for the Offering

Offertory

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #331

NATIONAL HYMN

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

*Charge and Benediction

DEPART TO SERVE

*Those who are able may stand.

Welcome to everyone who is worshipping this morning. If you are visiting, we hope you will feel very welcome and that you will stay following worship for refreshments and conversation.

Christ’s Ministers in the World: All members of the church

Interim Pastor: The Rev. David Bowman

Director of Music: Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman

Director of Family Ministries: Starr Alleyne

Liturgist: Mark Thomas

Pastor Bowman’s contact information:

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

Announcements

The **Adult Forum** meets each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. The link is in the Saturday announcements email.

The **youth** meet at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings.

The **choir** rehearses each Sunday morning at 9:30 in the sanctuary.

A training session for those interested in helping with the **livestreaming of Sunday services** will be held following worship today. If you have any questions, see Robin Garzoni or Carol Belles.

The **Board of Deacons** will meet at noon today.

This year’s **Lawrence Community Thanksgiving Celebration** will be held on Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 p.m. at the Lawrence Community Center. The theme of the event is “Hope For Our Community.”

Pastor Bowman will be away on a week’s vacation through November 25. While he is away, if there are any pastoral emergencies, contact the Clerk of Session.

The Christian Education Committee will sponsor an **Advent Study** on Thursdays, November 30 through December 21 at 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. via Zoom. The book being used is "Stay Awhile: Advent Lessons in Divine Hospitality" by Kara Eidson. If you plan to participate, there is a sign-up sheet in fellowship hall.

Those people remembered in the prayers of the people last week are: Sam, Keira, Emma, Sam & Kari, Sharon, Tia, Mikey & family, Jon, Karla & Aaron, Carrie & family, Samantha, Michael, Jonathan, Pam, Kurt, Karlie & family, Tom Okeson, Liz, Cindy, Jack, Sharon, Brittney and Scott.

Coming Events

Sun., Dec. 3 – First Sunday of Advent

Fri., Dec. 8 – 6:00 p.m. - Advent Social at home of Tara Perigny and Shelley Sanders Zuckerman. Bring a dish to share. There is a sign up sheet in fellowship hall.

Sat., Dec. 9 – The Truth & Reconciliation Group is planning a trip to the Stoutsburg Sourland African American Museum in Skillman, NJ. Participants will leave the church at 9:45 a.m. Everyone is welcome and those going will carpool from the church parking lot. This will also be a good opportunity to stop for lunch after the museum to support former Slackwood family member Joe Crosier and the restaurant he has opened in Lambertville.

Sun., Dec. 10 – The Truth & Reconciliation Group is planning a prayer service on the 75th anniversary of Human Rights Day. The service will begin outside in front of the church at 11:45 a.m. and will include members of the Lawrence community. Come to worship that day and then stay for the prayer service.