



## **PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

**November 15, 2020**

*Connecting with the Community,  
Growing Disciples, and Serving Jesus Christ*

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website  
[PantherValleyChurch.org](http://PantherValleyChurch.org)*

*FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH*

## PRELUDE

### CALL TO WORSHIP

O: God, let this be a fruitful day!

**A: In this hour of worship, open our eyes to beauty, tune our ears to harmony.**

O: The fragrance of your love permeating every moment.

**A: The touch of your hand guiding all we do. Together, we want to taste with delight the joy of your presence here today.**

### OPENING PRAYER Based on Romans 10:17

Father, in Jesus' name we pray that as we hear Your message today which will come from the word of God, our faith will be increased. We ask, Father, that You would use Your word which is living and active and sharper than any double edged sword to rightly divide us even to soul and spirit, joint and marrow. Use Your word, Father, to expose the thoughts and the attitudes of our hearts.

### SONG *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O: Lord Jesus Christ, you used your hands to heal; to lift up; to bless; to sow kindness and tenderness in desolate lives.

**A: Forgive us when we keep our hands at our sides when we could be reaching out in love.**

O: Lord Jesus Christ, you used your hands to bear the burdens of others and to feed the hungry.

**A: Forgive us when we use our hands to take care of ourselves without any thought for those who are hungry or overwhelmed with adversity.**

O: Lord Jesus Christ, you used your hands to welcome and to include those who were considered outcasts in the society of your time.

**A: Forgive us when we clench our fists and exclude people simply because are different from us.**

### SCRIPTURE READING:

#### **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon

a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

### **Matthew 25:14-30**

“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

## **MESSAGE**

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

#### **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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Accept and bless these wonderful gifts that they may be used to serve you by serving others in need. AMEN.

### **BENEDICTION**

Go in peace with love for one another. Use your talents to bless this land and serve God's purpose. For we are his and together are one. Until we meet again, be well, do good, and love in his name.

## **POSTLUDE**

### **PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH**

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