



PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

November 8, 2020

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

*Our Worship can be viewed on our website
PantherValleyChurch.org*

FRIENDS ~ FAMILY ~ FAITH

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP Based on Ephesians 4:4-6

ONE: We have come together as one.

ALL: One people, gathered in the name of the one God.

ONE: We will worship together as one.

ALL: One community, giving praise and honor to the Righteous One.

ONE: We are being empowered as one by One.

ALL: One body and one Spirit, called to the hope of one calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is above all and through all and in all.

Now, in the name of the Three-in-One, we act as one. One people, giving witness to the power of One.

OPENING PRAYER

ONE: God of mercy, our nation is in a time of great transition.

ALL: With all of the injustice and fear in our world today, we thank you for inspiring us and guiding us as we participated in the elections.

ONE: We seek a government that upholds and protects human rights and justice for all its citizens,

ALL: regardless of race, class, gender, or religion.

ONE: Move and inspire us by your presence among us in the most vulnerable in our society.

ALL: For their tears are your tears, their pain is your pain, their suffering is your suffering. In gratitude for the right to vote, we pray.

SONG *Battle Hymn of the Republic*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION adapted from Psalm 4

Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer. How long will humanity turn your glory into shame? How long will your people love delusions and seek false gods? In my anger I have sinned; though you continue to search my heart for love. Forgive me, O Lord, and help me to follow your teaching and live a life that is pleasing to you, so that your face may once again shine upon me. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 New Revised Standard Version

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Matthew 25:1-13 New Revised Standard Version

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

MESSAGE *The Power of One*

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.

SENDING FORTH

By God's amazing grace, we are the body of Christ. And because of that, let us go into the world in peace and courage, holding to the good, honoring all of God's children, loving and serving the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. And the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all until we meet again.

POSTLUDE

Song; Battle Hymn of the Republic CCLI #24133, Public Domain

Announcements & Upcoming Events

Bible Study on Zoom:

Monday Night at 7pm

Wednesday Morning at 10am The Me I Want to Be

Care and Nurture Prayer Shawls and Palm Prayer Squares are in the coat closet outside Fellowship Hall. People can take a bag to give to anyone who is in need of support and comfort.

PANTHER VALLEY ECUMENICAL CHURCH

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Pastor: Ninabeth Metcalf, Music Director: Diane Van Dongen

Church Secretary:

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