

Worship @ Home Guide – 11.22.2020

Woodstock Presbyterian Church, 142 E. Court St., Woodstock, VA 22664

Today's worship recording celebrates our denomination's commitment to living out the Matthew 25 vision: "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,^[a] you did it to me." Our service was recorded at the Presbyterian Center in Louisville, KY by PC(USA) staff. We rejoice in our connected Church, and give thanks for our collective service to God.

RECONNECT

Gathering Music/Announcements

Welcome

Call to Worship

The Lord God is our shepherd.

Ezek. 34:15–16; Ps. 100:3;

**We are the people of God's pasture,
the sheep of God's hand.**

Matt. 25:31–46

God will seek the lost,
feed the hungry,
and strengthen the weak.

**But the proud and power-hungry
will be fed with justice.**

Prayer of Confession

CALL TO CONFESSION

With sincere and repentant hearts,
let us name our sins against Christ and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Sovereign God, we confess
that we are not ready for your holy realm.
You guide us toward right paths,
but we refuse to follow where you lead.
You love and feed and care for us,
but we fail to love and serve others.
Forgive us, merciful God,
so that we may return to your fold
and rejoice in your presence;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
the Lamb upon the throne. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

However long we wander,
however far we stray,
God's steadfast love endures forever.
Sisters and brothers, be assured:
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Ps. 100:5

READ

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:31–46

³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family,^[a] you did it to me.' ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

REFLECT

Message

In your congregation, how might you love and serve Christ as you love and serve your neighbors in need — living into the Matthew 25 vision of eradicating systemic poverty, dismantling structural racism and building congregational vitality?

RESPOND

Prayers

Our Shepherd satisfies our needs;
in faith, let us pray to the Lord, saying,
Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

O Lord, our God, we pray for the church. . . .

As you have made Christ the head of all,
help us to live faithfully as his body,
continuing his mission in the world.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for the earth. . . .

Let all the earth make a joyful noise to you,
a song of praise to the rock of our salvation,
for you are coming to reveal a new creation.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for all nations. . . .

Drive out those wolves in sheep's clothing
who abuse the weak and scatter the flock.
Come and save us; bring justice and peace.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for this community. . . .

Help us to see Christ among our neighbors,
serving those who are hungry and thirsty,
naked and lonely, sick or in prison.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, our God, we pray for loved ones. . . .

Remember the people of your pasture:
rescue the lost, bind up the broken,
heal the sick, and feed those who hunger.
Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving Shepherd, lead and guide us—

in green pastures and by still waters,
in right paths and through dark valleys,
until we feast with you in glory
and dwell in your house forever;
through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

RETURN

Charge & Benediction

Sending Hymn – “Jesus, Be With Us”

Jesus, be with us. Help us each day
To follow the gospel and live as we pray.
Send us your Spirit and show us your way.
Jesus, be with us today.

Where there is hunger and thirst in the land, scatter the systems of greed.
Jesus, be with us; make use of our hands. Lift up your people in need.

Where there is hatred because of our skin, break down the walls of our fear.
Jesus, be with us, to save us from sin. In your great love, draw us near.

Where there are valleys of bones, dry as dust, build up the body of Christ.
Jesus be with us, and help us to trust. Teach us a new way of life.

Worship Service Participants

Preacher:

The Rev. Dr. Diane Givens Moffett, President/Executive Director, Presbyterian Mission Agency

Liturgical Leaders:

The Rev. Dr. J. Herbert Nelson, II, Stated Clerk of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)	
Ruling Elder Elona Street-Stewart, Co-Moderator of the 224th PC(USA) General Assembly	
The Rev. Gregory Jerome Bentley, Co-Moderator of the 224th PC(USA) General Assembly	
Princeton Abaraoha (Igbo)	Jorge Abdala (Portuguese)
Denise Anderson	Moongil Cho (Korean)
David Gambrell	Laurie Kraus
William McConnell	Amy Mendez
Rosa Miranda (Spanish)	Jihyun Oh
Ralph Su (Mandarin)	

Musical Leaders:

Carter Anderson II	Marissa Galván-Valle
David Gambrell	So Jung Kim
William McConnell	Phillip Morgan

Videographer and editor:

Randy Hobson

Planning team:

Denise Anderson	David Gambrell
Laurie Kraus	William McConnell
Amy Mendez	Diane Givens Moffett
Melody Smith	

To support Matthew 25 ministries at the national level of our church and in partnership with the whole church eradicating systemic poverty, dismantling structural racism and building congregational vitality, please go to pcusa.org/donate/e052197.