

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ps 100

dwh

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Serve the Lord with gladness;
Give thanks to God; bless God's holy name.*

For the Lord is good;
the steadfast love of God endures forever
and God's faithfulness to all generations.

HYMN

*We Gather Together
to Ask the Lord's Blessing*

131

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

dwh

Gracious God, by your Spirit work in and among us
that we might hear what you would have us hear
and be transformed into the likeness of your Son,
for the sake of Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:31-46

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

CHOIR

Open My Eyes that I May See

454

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

from Ezekiel 34:11-12 and FotW

*Thus says the Lord our God:
"I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out.
As a shepherd seeks out the scattered sheep,
so I will seek out my people."
Trusting that God is indeed seeking us,
let us confess our sin together:*

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.

(from Ezekiel 34:15-16)

*Thus says the Lord our God: "I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,
and I will make them lie down.
I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed,
and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak."*

**The relentless grace of Jesus Christ
always finds and forgives us.
Thanks be to our ever-seeking God!**

SERMON

HYMN

Come, Thou Almighty King

61

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*Christine Sine
A prayer for American Thanksgiving:*

God may we live into the promise of your peace,
with grateful hearts and thankful spirits.
Let this be our journey and our destination,
until the wonder and wholeness
of your kingdom consume us.
Let it be our longing and our passion,
So that our hearts ache for justice,
and our souls long for righteousness.
Let its promise and its hope
Go before us, behind us
and be buried deep within our being.
Until it becomes the lifeblood of your world again.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

INTERCESSIONS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BRINGING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER

BCP

Accept, O Lord, our thanks and praise
for all that you have done for us.
We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation,
for the beauty of this world,
for the wonder of life,
and for the mystery of love.
We thank you for the blessing of family and friends, and
for the loving care which surrounds us on every side.
Above all, we thank you for your Son Jesus Christ;
for the truth of his Word and the example of his life;
Grant us the gift of your Spirit,
that we may know Christ and make him known;
and through him, at all times and in all places,
may give thanks to you in all things. Amen.

HYMN *Crown Him with Many Crowns* **327**

CHARGE & BLESSING

(c) John Birch, at faithandworship.com

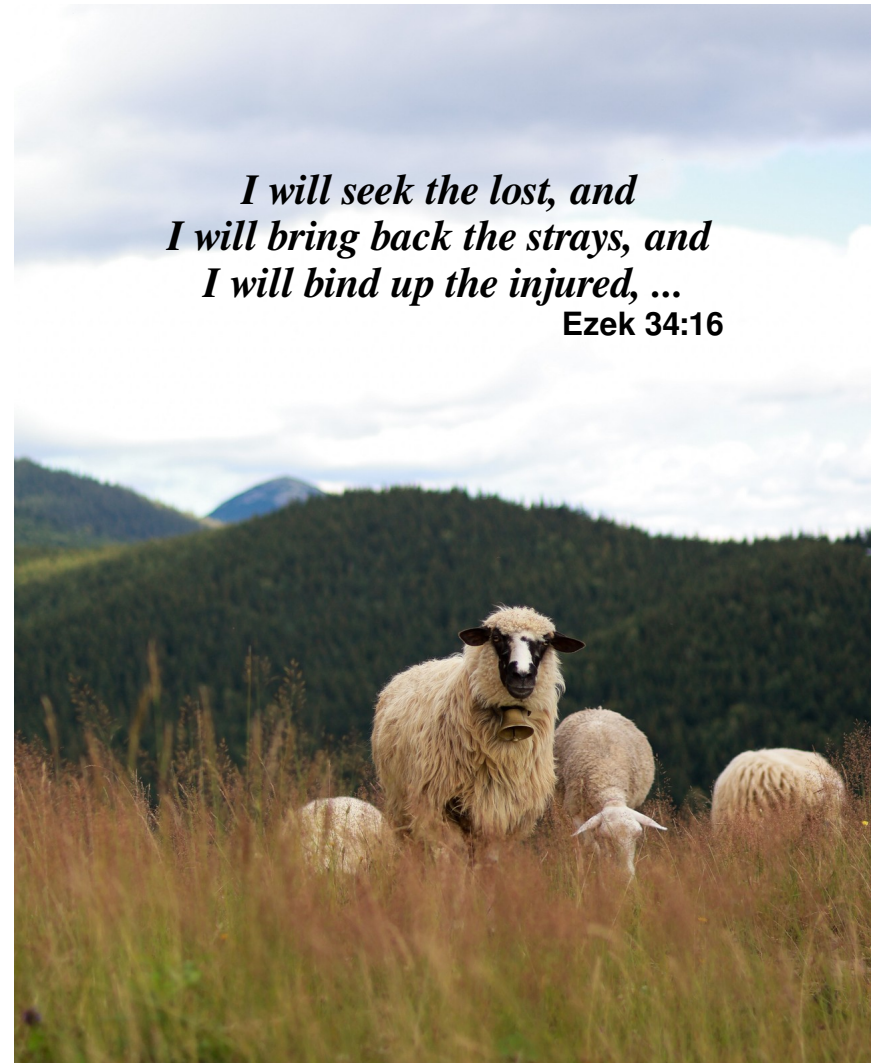
*May we be peacemakers in a world that would dull
our God-given senses of sadness, grief, and pain,
through endless acts of violence and terrorism.
May our lives and words reveal a better way to live, one that values
everyone and the sanctity of life.*

**May we be peacemakers in this
our beautiful, fragile, God-given world. Amen**

POSTLUDE

This Friday – Decorating for Advent & Christmas

Bulletin Credits: Some of the Liturgy is by the pastor (**dwh**)
That which is by others is used with permission.
or via Discipleship Ministries (**GBoD**), from the Worship Website.
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/worship-planning>
or from Feasting on the Word (eg **FotW** – see also insert)
or from the Book of Common Prayer, (**BCP** – public domain).
or other sources as noted.
Cover Photo by [Anna Keibalo](#) on [Unsplash](#); free to use under Unsplash License



*I will seek the lost, and
I will bring back the strays, and
I will bind up the injured, ...
Ezek 34:16*

November 26, 2023 - 11:00am

Clarksburg United Methodist Church

23425 Spire St., Clarksburg, Maryland
<https://www.facebook.com/clarksburgmdumc/>

Accompanist: Rick Beede
Choir Director: Cathy Warfield

Pastor: Rev. David Hodsdon

➤ Cell Phone: 240 676 7825
➤ Email: revdwhodsdon@gmail.com
➤ www.youtube.com/@davehodsdon3533



Reflecting on and Praying with Scriptures

*As suggested by the Revised Common Lectionary
Year A – Season after Pentecost; Nov. 26, 2023*

*Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press
from Feasting on the Word® Worship Companion. Copyright 2013*

Scriptures	<i>Semicontinuous</i>	<i>Complementary</i>
	<i>Ezekiel 34:11–24</i>	<i>Ezekiel 34:11–24</i>
	<i>Psalms 100</i>	<i>Psalms 95:1–7a</i>
<i>Epistle</i>	<i>Ephesians 1:15–23</i>	
<i>Gospel</i>	<i>Matthew 25:31–46</i>	

Questions for Reflection

How would it change you to see the face of Christ
in every stranger you meet?

What sort of power is manifest in the reign of Jesus Christ?

What does it mean to claim that Christ is “far above all rule and
authority and power and dominion” or that God has “put all things
under his feet” (Eph. 1:21, 22)?

Morning Prayers:

God of all creation, I greet your new day with thanksgiving and praise.
Do not let me neglect the needs of those I meet today,
and keep me faithful to your ways, for I want to live for you. Amen.

Almighty God, reveal to me the greatness of your power,
that I may see your presence among the lowly and the lost
and know the authority and sovereignty of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is also our humble brother. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

Lord Jesus, when did I see you hungry? When did I see you thirsty?
When did I welcome you, clothe you, take care of you, or visit you?
Have I ignored your claim upon my time, my attention, my resources?
Open my eyes; melt my heart; enlighten my understanding.
Let me see you in the world, welcome you as my brother,
and serve you as my Lord,
with the family you acknowledge as your own:
the poor, the stranger, the sick, and the prisoner. Amen.

Evening Prayers:

Thank you, Lord, for the gifts and challenges of this day.
Where I failed to do your will, forgive me.
Grant me peace throughout this night, and if I should die,
welcome me into your glory with all the saints in light;
in Jesus' name. Amen.

Space for notes: