

September 29, 2024  
10:30 a.m. | Chapel  
19th Sunday after Pentecost

*Gathering Around the Word*

Lighting of the Candles

Jesus is the Light of the World!

Prelude

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Oliver Holden/Arr. By Melody Bober

Welcome and Announcements

*As the Friendship Folder is passed in your pew, please record your attendance in worship today.  
For our guests, please enter your name and contact information so we may welcome you.*

Did You Know? *Pumpkin Patch and Fall Festival*

*Lisa Lucas, Honey Cunningham, and Zach Myers*

✦ Call to Worship *(responsively)*

*adapted from Psalm 124:8, 46:1*

Kim Dowd

In speaking, in silence, in movement, in stillness, God is with us.

**Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

When we are flooded by life's circumstances, battered by raging waters, God is with us.

**Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble.

**Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

Let us worship the Lord, our God!

✦ Opening Hymn 12

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,

In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,

Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

Almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,

Nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:

Thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;

Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.

In all life thou livest, the true life of all.

We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,

Then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.

Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.

Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.

All praise we would render; O help us to see

'Tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

Words and Music: Public domain

✦ Please stand in body or in spirit.

*Please silence your cell phones during worship.*

## *Being Renewed in Grace*

### **Call to Confession**

*adapted from Psalm 124:8*

Psalm 124 reminds us that the Lord is on our side, protecting us from enemies who attack and the raging storms of life. When we faithfully examine our lives, we can see that there are times when we are the enemy attacking others, times when we flood others with our anxiety and stress, and times when we rage against God, not fully trusting in the promise: Our help is in the name of the Lord. Help us Lord to confess and repent of all that separates us from your love and from loving our neighbors completely.

*(Time for Silent Confession)*

### **Prayer of Confession**

Loving God, we confess that there are times when we are like hurricane Helene, battering the lives of those around us and raging against you, leaving a path of destruction in our wake. Flooded with words and images of violence, we drown out your Word of Peace. We forget that Jesus with a word can calm life's storms. Turn our faithlessness into faithfulness. Open our ears and hearts to hold space for your voice to return to us: the voice of a better way of healing and hope for all people. Show us this faithful path and give us the courage to walk in it, even if for the very first time. All this we pray in the name of the one who calmed the storm, the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ, Amen.

### **✦ Assurance of Pardon**

### **✦ Passing of the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you.  
**And also with you!**

### **Anthem**

*Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*  
The Chancel Choir  
Marilyn Davis, soloist

Sebastian Temple / Arr. by Martin Neary

Make me a channel of your peace; where there is hatred let me bring your love,  
Where there is injury, your pardon, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Make me a channel of your peace, where there's despair in life let me bring hope,  
Where there is darkness, only light, and where there's sadness, ever joy.

O Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled as to console,  
To be understood as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace, it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,  
In giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

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## *Proclaiming the Word*

### **Prayer for Illumination**

Kim Dowd

If we are uncertain and weary, speak to us, O God. If we are grounded and hopeful, speak to us. If our faith feels solid and steady, speak to us, and if our faith feels shaky and tentative, speak to us. Keep speaking through your holy Word, O God, that we may find our voice in yours. Amen.

### **Reading from the Gospel of Mark**

Mark 9:38-50

Kim Dowd

*John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us." But Jesus said, "Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.*

*"If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.*

*"For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."*

God's word for God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Blessing the Children**

*Children are invited to come forward at this time for a blessing before going to children's worship in the narthex.*

**Children: God be with you here.**

**Congregation: God be with you there.**

### **Reading from the Gospel of James**

James 5:13-20

*Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.*

*My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.*

The Gospel of our Lord and Savior.

**Thanks be to you, O Christ!**

*Responding to the Word*✦ **Affirmation of Faith** (*in unison*)*Barmen Declaration*

As Jesus Christ is God's assurance of the forgiveness of all our sins, so in the same way and with the same seriousness is he also God's mighty claim upon our whole life. Through him befalls us joyful deliverance from the godless fetters of this world for a free, grateful service to God's Creatures. We reject the false doctrine, as though there were areas of our life in which we would not belong to Jesus Christ, but to other lords – areas in which we would not need justification or sanctification through him.

**Offering Invitation**

We make our offering before God, not as payment for a grace we could never afford, but as an act of commitment and gratitude for the God who builds a new world in our midst, even now. We give out of joy, trusting that God will use these gifts for the good of all people.

**Offertory***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

William B. Bradbury / Arr. by Philip Keveren

✦ **Doxology** (*all singing*)

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

✦ **Prayer of Dedication**

Accept all that is offered in this place this day, O God. Accept our investment in building a more peaceable family on this earth and in our own communities. Accept our personal commitments to break cycles of hatred and retaliation, in large-scale and everyday ways. Use these gifts and our lives for the rebuilding of a world of hope and healing in your name, Amen.

**Hymn 469***Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

*Choir:* Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Send us love; send us power; send us grace.

*All:* Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place.  
Lord, listen to your children praying.  
Send us love; send us power; send us grace. (*Repeat*)

## Prayers of the People *and* The Lord's Prayer

We pray for each other, the church, our community, and the world saying, Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.**

### *Bearing and Following the Word Into the World*

#### ✠Sending Hymn 804

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

**Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

**With voice as full and strong as ocean's surging praise,  
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

**Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go,  
From youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

**At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest;  
The pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

**Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!**

Words and music: Public domain

#### ✠Charge and Blessing

#### ✠Postlude

*When in Our Music God is Glorified*

Arr. by Matt Limbaugh

*The ushers this morning are Karen and Mac Jordan.  
The greeter this morning is David Eldridge.  
The Stephen Minister this morning is Eloise Newton.*

#### **The Worship Leaders this morning are:**

*Rev. George Tatro, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Rachel Breyer-Mulgrave, Director of Faith Formation and Discipleship  
Heidi Chinnock, Director of Music Ministries and Organist  
Amy Noel Welch, Collaborative Pianist  
Kim Dowd, Liturgist*

## Upcoming Events at JCPC

*As the Friendship Folder is passed in your pew, please record your attendance in worship today.  
For our guests, please enter your name and contact information so we may welcome you.*

2024-2025 Open Enrollment for Preschool is underway | [jcpcusa.org/preschool](http://jcpcusa.org/preschool)

### Text/E-mail Scam Alert

Please be aware that none of the church staff will ask you for money or gift cards.  
If you receive this message from anyone, please delete it and do not act upon it.



Scan QR Code to sign up for  
what you will bring to the  
Potluck Lunch →



### Pumpkin Delivery Day Saturday, October 12!

Sign up to work a shift at the Pumpkin Patch by scanning the QR Code below or  
you may sign up on the list in the Welcome Center.





- The Pumpkin Patch
- Fair Food
- Bake Sale
- Corn Hole Tourney
- Bounce Obstacle Course
- Games for kids of all ages
- Blessing of the animals (preferably on a leash)
- Live Music



# JCPC PUMPKIN PATCH

## OCTOBER 12 - 31

OPEN SUNDAY - FRIDAY  
12:00 - 8:00

SATURDAYS 10:00 - 8:00

10950 BELL RD. JOHNS CREEK, GA

**Fresh pumpkins / Halloween & Thanksgiving decor / carving & cooking / all shapes & sizes / photo opportunities**

**Proceeds go towards mission trips!**

**SEE YOU AT THE PATCH!**

Contact Lisa 770-364-3230 or  
Honey 678-575-7471 for info.



## Session Elders

### Class of 2024

Aisha Furtado (Youth Elder), Education Ministry Team  
Dawn Melin, Mission Ministry Team  
Zach Myers, Connecting Ministry Team  
Rich Shuler, Stewardship Ministry Team  
Tom Traylor, Clerk of Session and Stewardship Ministry Team and Personnel

### Class of 2025

Roy Davey, Worship Ministry Team  
Marilyn Davis, Worship Ministry Team  
Debi Doverspike, Mission Ministry Team  
Vivek Furtado, Youth Ministry Team

### Class of 2026

Craig Cunningham, Youth Ministry Team  
John Gutekunst, Education Ministry Team  
Alice Ann Nilsen, Caring Ministry Team  
Jim Pope, Stewardship Ministry Team and Personnel

## Name Tags for Sundays

*Please check on the round table in the Welcome Center for your name tag either before Sunday School or Worship. They will be in alphabetical order. If you don't have one, there are adhesive name tags you can use. There will be a clipboard with a list where you can add your name, and a name tag will be available for you the following Sunday. Please return your name tags to the table before leaving the church today.*

## Special note about our cameras

Welcome to worship! For many years, JCPC has recorded its worship services for those who are homebound or absent from worship. We are now able to Livestream the service from the worship hour. The worship leaders and the first few rows of the worship space are visible in these videos. The back rows are not visible in the Livestream or recording. Thank you for being with us this morning, and we hope you'll watch online when you can't be with us in person.

Scan to Give:



Would you like to receive Connections emails? Scan here:



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