Rejoice in **the Lord**

Responsive benediction

All: Shine a light in the darkness. The Lord is near!

One: Near in the sense of "on the way!" We are voices crying out in the wilderness, and it's a pretty rough wilderness out there. As the Lord approaches, to bring the jubilee and make all things well, let us shine a light in the darkness to guide and guard the hearts of all who despair, so that together we may wait upon Cod's good will!

All: Be a light in the darkness. The Lord is near!

One: Near in the sense of "in our midst!" Seen and unseen-the Lord is dose at hand in every kind act, every moment of grace, every courageous cup of cold water shared with the least of these. As we go forward in faith let us open our hearts to the opportunities the Lord prepares for us to share together in the work of God's good will!

AII: Therefore, "Rejoice!" we say, and again we say, "Rejoice!" Because the Lord is near, close at hand; the Lord is near, on the way.

One: And may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and our minds in Christ Jesus.

All: Amen!

- Frank Ramirez
Nappanee, Indiana

"Let your gentleness be known to everyone. *The Lord is near"* (Philippians 4:5, NRSVue). Today's Bible readings from the lectionary: Isaiah 25:1-9; Psalm 23; Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14.

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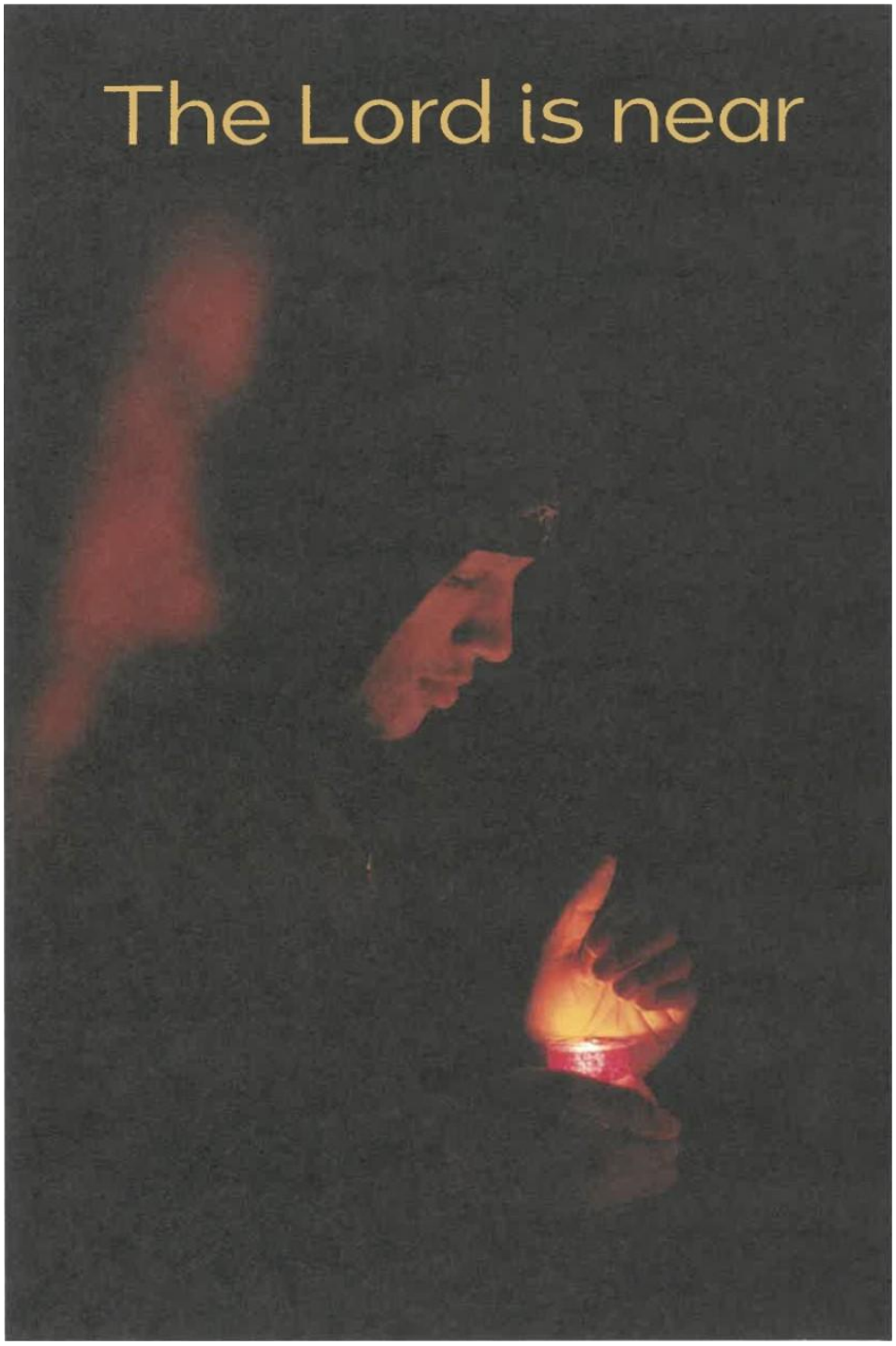

CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN
Hagerstown, Maryland

MORNING WORSHIP **10:45 AM**

October 11, 2026

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"How Firm a Foundation"* (Birchwood)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: **Come away from the valleys of misplaced loyalty.**
Come, seeking to meet the God of all worlds.
All: *We have come to praise God and give thanks.*
We believe God's steadfast love endures forever.
One: **We come together that our faith might be strengthened.**
We seek the strength to live by all we profess.
All: *God's awesome deeds saved our ancestors.*
Surely God's steadfast love continues with us.
One: **God continues to deliver us in times of distress.**
God's steadfast love endures forever.
All: *We rejoice that God is near and available to us.*
We hear God welcoming us to this time of prayer.

***HYMN #567** *"How Firm a Foundation"*

***INVOCATION**

A MOMENT TO BECOME LIKE A CHILD

SERVICE OF GIVING

Call to Giving
Offertory *"Communion in Christ"* (Kendall)
***Doxology #119** *"Praise God from whom"*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MORNING ANTHEM "Song of Fellowship" (Besig)
Temple Choir

SHARING OUR JOYS, CONCERNS, AND HOPES

Please remember our worship is also on YouTube and our website.
Please do not share any personal information you do not want to be made public.
An usher will hold the microphone for you while you share.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***HYMN #455** "Bread of Life"

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 1:10-17, NRSVA NT 166

MESSAGE The Church: Unity and Diversity
Pastor Eddie Edmonds

***HYMN #403** *"The Church of Christ in Every Age"*

BENEDICTION

After the Benediction, you may be seated.
Please continue in a spirit of worship as we listen to the Postlude music.

POSTLUDE *"Unity and Brotherhood"* (Chesterton)

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

*Please rise — in body or spirit — as an act of worship
Thank you for joining us in worship today.

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Please sign the attendance rosters found at the end of your pew, or possibly in the hymnal rack, and pass it down the row so everyone can sign.

Our thanks to Rebecca Jackson for being our worship leader.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given to the glory of God and in honor of Chris and Julie Herman's 13th wedding anniversary on October 12.

CALENDAR

Sunday, October 11

Junior Church

8:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings
8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:15 am Parish Nurse Blood Pressure Screenings
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)
2:30 pm Harvest Festival/Growing Project Farm @ Myersville, MD

Monday, October 12

Church office closed

Wednesday, October 14

Church office closed
12:00 pm Deadline for bulletin announcement submissions

Thursday, October 15

Pastor Eddie in office/Call ahead to schedule an appointment
5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal/Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm Brethren Bells/Choir Room
7:30 pm Temple Choir/Fellowship Hall

Friday, October 16

1:00 pm Islamic Center/Use of Parking Lot (1-3PM)

Saturday, October 17

1:00 pm Fall Festival/Trunk or Treat/HCOB

Sunday, October 18

8:30 am Morning Praise Worship/Fellowship Hall
9:30 am Sunday School, individual classrooms
10:45 am Worship, Sanctuary & YouTube (www.youtube.com/@hagerstowncob)
12:00 pm Nominating Committee/Mullendore Room

Remember our weekday schedule is subject to rapid change.

You may mail your offering to
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown MD 21740
OR
you can make a secure offering donation on our website using Breeze www.hagerstowncob.org

The church calendar is online at www.hagerstowncob.org.

Hagerstown
Church of the Brethren
15 S. Mulberry Street,
Hagerstown, Maryland
21740
301-733-3565

Office: Tuesday—Friday
Flexible hours
(appointments welcome/
call ahead)

Morning Praise Worship
at 8:30 AM
Sunday School at 9:30 AM
Worship and YouTube Live at
10:45 AM

www.hagerstowncob.org

www.facebook.com/
hagerstowncob

www.youtube.com/
@hagerstowncob

Eddie Edmonds
Interim Pastor

Allyson McPeak
Administrative Assistant

Burton Young
Director of
Music Ministries

James "Jamie" Prather
Interior Esthetics
Technician

We welcome you to our church and Rejoice in your participation with us in worship. It is our prayer that you will experience the presence of God's Spirit and that it will equip you for service and ministry in the week ahead. Our Pastor, Deacons, and Cluster Leaders are available after worship and during the week to listen and assist you in your Christian pilgrimage.

If you placed someone on the prayer list and they are now celebrating a recovery and would like their name taken off the list, please contact the church office.

If you or a loved one has surgery scheduled, is hospitalized, or would like a visit from the pastor, please notify the church..

"Take A Moment"- October 11, 2026

O God who is always near us, grant us freedom from fretful worry and tension that we might draw near to you. In times that are stressed and that compress, build us up with confidence and joyful anticipation of your future. We deeply need your peace to guard our hearts and minds lest we become divided. With so many forces pulling at us, draw us into the same mind that was in Jesus. Help us to live in his self-emptying love that we might stand firm in the face of withering change and that by your persistent grace ever be formed into his likeness. With Christ as our helper we pray. Amen.

Growing Hope Global family fun Harvest Festival will be Sunday, October 11 beginning at 2:30 p.m. It will be held at the Grossnickle Farm at 11720 Wolfsville Road, Myersville, MD, near Grossnickle Church of the Brethren, The annual festival is in its 21st year, For more information and/call Arn Platou at 301-790-3498.

Fall Festival & Trunk or Treat will be held on Saturday, October 17, 2026, from 1:00 to 3:30 pm. We will have bingo, children's games and a cake walk. There will be Trunk or Treat with a costume parade for the children. We will offer hot dogs, baked beans, chips, popcorn, water, ice cream sandwiches and cotton candy.

There are many ways that you can support the Fall Festival. Volunteer to help with the activities or in the kitchen. We need baked beans, bagged candy, and cakes or baked goods (placed in a container and labeled). We also need children's and adult prizes for bingo. If you have any appropriate items, you can place them in the box in the west entrance, beginning September 20th. Sign-up sheets will be available on September 20th for helpers, bakers, and anyone willing to do Trunk or Treat. If you have any questions, contact Service & Outreach Co-Chairs, Ann & Vince Bourdeau at 240-291-8521.

Remembrance Sunday - November 1, 2026 - Please join us for a special worship Service of Remembrance as we celebrate the lives of those loved ones who have passed in the last year.

Friends in Faith, our fellowship group for widows and widowers, will be meeting Wednesday, November 4th, at 12:00, in the fellowship hall. A sign up sheet is in the West entrance. Please list what food you will be bringing. Any questions? Contact Ann Platou, Suzie Wolfe, Nancy Gingrich, Robin Davies, or Mary Means.

Our Fall Congregational Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 15th. We will have a potluck lunch in the fellowship hall following our worship. The business meeting will be held after the meal.
Ministry Team Chairs! Your reports for the Congregational Business Meeting are due to the church office no later than Sunday, November 1st.

The Novel Bunch will meet Saturday, November 7 at 10:00 in the fellowship hall. The book for November is Waiting for Christmas by Lynn Austin. Flyers with more information are on the credenza.

Spiritual Nurture would like to initiate a visitation group, **Heart to Heart**, for homebound members and friends. If you feel called to visit and encourage others, please join this group by contacting Mary Means at 301-992-9640 or Jenny Ferguson at 301-964-1779. If you would like to receive a visit, reach out to Mary or Jenny.

October Newsletter - A reminder that there will not be an October newsletter.

The holiday season is rapidly approaching and while most of us look forward to the holidays, they are a time when the complex emotions of grief hit even harder. Consequently, grieving people need encouragement and support to make it through this season. This may be the first holiday after a loved one's passing, or perhaps it's been years since a loved one's death. Regardless of the time that has gone by, emotions can blindside a person who has suffered a loss. While Thanksgiving and Christmas focus on family gatherings, traditions, expectations, social events and "cheer," it's difficult to feel cheerful when that special someone is no longer here. However, the emotional fallout can be lessened somewhat by knowing what to expect and by being prepared.

The Hagerstown Church of the Brethren GriefShare team is planning a special event entitled Surviving the Holidays on Monday, November 9, from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. You do not need to have been part of a previous GriefShare group to attend, and we encourage you to invite family and friends to attend with you. There is no cost to attend this event. If you have suffered the loss of a loved one and would like to participate in our Surviving the Holidays evening, register at www.griefshare.org. For more information, contact Debbie Nycum, Twyla Rowe, or any member of the GriefShare team. *Light refreshments will be served.*

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT—Announcements for the bulletin and worship leader need to be emailed to hcobofficehelp@gmail.com. This email is for this purpose only. All other emails can go to the secretaryhcob@gmail.com.

If you would like an insert added to the bulletin while Allyson is on maternity leave, you will need to have it formatted the way you would like and printed for the ladies in the office to include in the bulletin. If you have questions, please contact the church office. Thank you!

Cash for Causes/Martin's Gift Card Program. Purchase Martin's gift cards to take to the store to pay for your groceries or gas, and 5% of the face value of the gift card is a donation to the church and goes toward your yearly charitable contribution. To purchase a card, please contact Larry Kees, Jr. (301-331-0107). We can make arrangements to leave cards in your church mailbox or mail them to you.
Please remember to keep the administrative assistant updated on when and where meetings/events are being held. Please email or call the Administrative Assistant with information that needs added to the church calendar. **301-733-3565 or secretaryhcob@gmail.com**. Thank you!

Offering envelopes are located in the pew racks and at other convenient locations around the church. To assist our financial secretary, we ask that you use an envelope and please put your name and envelope number on the outside. Here's a tip - take a few envelopes home and stick one of those return address labels we all get on the outside. Then all you need to add is your number. Having your name and number on the outside of the envelope is a huge help to our offering counters. Thank you!