



***Stone Church of Willow Glen -  
Presbyterian Church (USA)  
San José, California***

***January 28, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany***

**The Preparation for the Word**

*Before worship, speak with God. During worship, let God speak to you.  
After worship, speak with those around you.*

**Chimes**

**Prelude**

*“Prelude on ‘Teach Me to Walk in the Light’*

*Richard Elliott (b. 1960)  
Barbara Vella, Organist*

**Welcome**

*The Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow*

**Call to Worship**

*Kathy Stark, Liturgist*

*Praise God! In the company of the saints above and beside us, let us give thanks to our God!*

**Great are the works of God, full of honor and majesty, whose righteousness endures forever.**

*God is gracious and merciful; the work of God’s hands are faithful and just.*

**God’s covenant is established forever in truth and justice.**

*Our redemption is in the name of the Holy One.*

**Holy and awesome is God’s name in all the earth!**

**\*Opening Hymn #274**      “O God of Earth and Space

1  
O God of earth and space,  
Of sea and fire and air,  
Your providence surrounds us here  
And everywhere.  
In fruit and grain and tree,  
In shelter from the cold,  
In cooling breezes, flowing wells,  
Now as of old.

2.  
Where faithfulness is shown,  
Where love and truth abound,  
Where beauty graces human life,  
There You are found.  
Inspirer of all thought!  
Creative force of art!  
The melody on every tongue,  
In every heart!

3.  
Wherever freedom reigns,  
Where sin is overthrown,  
Where justice fused with mercy rules,  
There You are known.  
Give us the courage clear  
To make the earth a home  
For all to live in harmony  
In Christ's shalom.

4.  
Your word commands response  
And summons us to life.  
We follow, strengthened by Your grace,  
In calm or strife.  
Our ever present help,  
Our challenge and our prod,  
We praise You now and to life's end,  
Eternal God.

**Call to Confession**

*As we gather in this place, let us confess those things that may hold us back from fully experiencing God this day.*

**Prayer of Confession**

**When we have lost compassion for those suffering or in need, God forgive us.  
When we have chosen to turn away from the brokenhearted and discarded, God forgive us. And when we have abdicated our role in bringing about justice, God forgive us. Holy One, send your Spirit that we might see the world as you do: a world of compassion, a world of dignity, and world of hope.**

**Silent Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Sisters, brothers, siblings in Christ, hear the good news that in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ you are forgiven and made new. Be at peace with yourself and all you meet. And all God's people say*

**The Passing of the Peace**

*The Peace of Christ be with you.*

**And also with you.**

*Please greet folks seated around you with a sign of peace*

**We Listen To God's Word**

**The First Lesson**

*Psalm 111 (O.T., p. 562)*

*I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. Full of honour and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever. He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and*

uprightness. He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name. The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

**Anthem**

*"Sound Over All Waters"*

Paul Halley

Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Krom, Director; Christy Wait, soloist

**The Second Lesson**

*Mark 1:21-28 (N.T., p. 34)*

*They went to Capernaum; and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then, there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, 'What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.' But Jesus rebuked him, saying, 'Be silent, and come out of him!' And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, 'What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.' At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.*

**Sermon**

*"Community Ain't Easy"*

Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow

**\*Hymn of Response #435**

*"We All Are One in Mission"*

1

*We all are one in mission,  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
By Christ, the Lord of all.  
A single, great commission  
Compels us from above  
To plan and work together  
That all may know Christ's love.*

3

*Now let us be united  
And let our song be heard.  
Now let us be a vessel  
For God's redeeming word.  
We all are one in mission,  
We all are one in call,  
Our varied gifts united  
By Christ, the Lord of all.*

2

*We all are called for service  
To witness in God's name;  
Our ministries are different,  
Our purpose is the same:  
To touch the lives of others  
By God's surprising grace  
So every folk and nation  
May feel God's warm embrace.*

**We Respond to the Good News**

**Call for the Offering**

*Friends, God has been generous with us, so let us now return to God a portion of what has been given to our care.*

**Offertory**

*"Erhalt uns, Herr, bei deinem Wort"*

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

*(Protect us Lord with your Word) BuxWV 185*

**\*Dedication of the People and Their Gifts Hymn #592**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Prayers of the People and the 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**We Go Out in God's Name**

**\*Closing Hymn**

*"Why Should I Feel Discouraged?"*

*#661 Glory to God hymnal*

*1*

*Why should I feel discouraged?  
Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely  
and long for heaven and home,  
when Jesus is my portion?  
My constant friend is he:  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.*

***Refrain:***

***I sing because I'm happy,  
I sing because I'm free,  
for his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me.***

*2*

*"Let not your heart be troubled,"  
his tender word I hear,  
and resting on his goodness,  
I lose my doubts and fears;  
though by the path he leadeth  
but one step I may see:  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me. [Refrain]*

*3*

*Whenever I am tempted,  
whenever clouds arise,  
when song gives place to sighing,  
when hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to him,  
from care he sets me free:  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me;  
his eye is on the sparrow,  
and I know he watches me. [Refrain]*

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**Postlude**

*"Siyahamba"*

*John A. Behnke (b. 1953);  
Vern Tegger, congas*

*Feel free to depart quietly. Please be mindful of those enjoying the postlude.  
Please exit thru the back doors, thru the Narthex to the patio.*

**\*Those who are able may rise in body or spirit.**

Original bulletin art created by Willow Glen Artist **Lynden Keith Johnson**.

## Thank You...

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**ASL** ~ Hannah Davis

**Floral** ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

**Ushers** ~ Hilleguus Faber & Kathleen Oliver

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**Sound** ~ Steve Nelson

**Zoom** ~ Brissa Lake

### **The Stone Church of Willow Glen PC(USA)**

1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA 95125

Office Hours M-F 9am - 1pm

1 (408) 269 - 1593

[www.stonechurch.org](http://www.stonechurch.org)

Pastors' day off: Mondays

*Our next Membership Inquiry Luncheon  
will be in March;*

*if you're interested, please contact*

[office\\_manager@stonechurch.org](mailto:office_manager@stonechurch.org)

*The Stone Church of Willow Glen acknowledges that the land on which we worship this morning is the  
unceded land of the Muwekma Ohlone people.*

During December, **Membership & Communications (M&C) committee**  
and friends are serving coffee & refreshments after worship.

All are invited!

**Welcome Guests and Visitors!** We hope you already feel at home among us here at Stone Church. The nearest **restroom** is located between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall; exit thru the double doors at the front of the Sanctuary (near the TV). Everyone is invited for **refreshments** and fellowship in the Social Hall and on the patio after worship. We welcome the sound of any little ones during worship, but if your baby (age 0-3) gets too wiggly for you; you may take them to the **Nursery**, located in the hallway between the Sanctuary & the Social Hall. It's open each Sunday for children ages 0-3 during worship. All older children are invited to participate in the children's sermon time, followed by church school.

**No Children's Sunday School Today**, but the nursery is open for children 3 and under. The nursery is located off the hallway between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall. For older children, there are some activity boxes in the Narthex to bring into the Sanctuary.

**Adult Ed** (11 am, SA) – Join Jess Roberts again **today** for *Chaos Theory II*. If you missed last week's *Chaos Theory I*, no problem, you'll still enjoy the topic. Chaos theory is the study of how apparently chaotic and disordered systems actually display a high degree of order, and often, surprising beauty, as in fractals. Come and explore the basics of chaos theory and its connection to spiritual, and specifically Christian, implications. No math ability is required!

**Human Trafficking Action Stand** - Human trafficking is the recruitment, transport, or transfer of persons using force, fraud or coercion to exploit them for acts of labor or sex. It is a form of modern-day slavery. With our "stand" and our signs, we are calling attention to this tragedy that occurs even here in the city in which we live. If this issue speaks to you, please join us as **we take our "stand" tomorrow** (1/29); **meet in the church office at 8:15 a.m.** Signs and brochures are provided. Questions? Contact Claudia Hamm ([jinchamm@gmail.com](mailto:jinchamm@gmail.com)).

**Year-End Donation Statements** were emailed and mailed last week. If you did not receive yours, or there are corrections needed, please contact [office\\_manger@stonechurch.org](mailto:office_manger@stonechurch.org).

**Vacation Church School** will be **June 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>** (8:45am – Noon). Mark your calendars for this fun week of “Knights of the North Castle!” Amber will have sign-ups ready soon.

**West Minster Woods Summer Camps** – Registration is open for their two principle programs, [Camp Heartwood](#) and [Camp Soulspring](#), lovingly referred to as the Heart and Soul of Westminster Woods, both are residential summer camps. These two programs comprise the majority of the summer calendar with each program offering multiple six-day sessions. We also provide three specialty programs: [The Grove](#), our Family Camp; [Woods to Waves](#), our offsite teen leadership adventure; and [Friendship Camp](#), our program for adults with developmental disabilities. Check out our full Summer Camp Calendar below and visit our [website](#) to learn more about each program.



**Ash Wednesday and Lent** – It feels like we just finished with Christmas and Epiphany, but Ash Wednesday and Lent are coming soon. Ash Wednesday is on Valentine’s Day (Feb 14<sup>th</sup>), and Bruce is working on an evening service (time TBD). From then on, it is the Lent/Easter countdown; with Easter is early this year, **March 31<sup>st</sup>**.

**Lenten Taize** services will start **Tues, Feb 20<sup>th</sup>**; held **weekly through March 26<sup>th</sup>**. If you are looking for a way to experience the Lenten season with meaning and depth, you will find it in our Taize service. The sanctuary doors open at 6:30 pm and the service is from 6:45 - 7:30 pm.

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt** will be on **Palm Sunday, Mar 24<sup>th</sup>** immediately following worship. Toddlers, Pre-schoolers, and Kindergartners to Fifth Graders, are invited to search for colorful, filled eggs.

**Setting up Communion** – The Worship committee needs one more person for each Communion Sunday (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month) to help with Communion set-up (February, March, April). It is a very simple job with a lead person there to train. Volunteers need to arrive at 8:30 am, and remain a bit after worship for cleanup. Sign-up at: [https://bit.ly/StoneChurch\\_Communion](https://bit.ly/StoneChurch_Communion).

**Tech in Worship Needs Your Help** – We need more people to learn the Zoom and Sound systems, so we’ll have enough coverage for worship on Sundays. Each week we need one person for sound and one person for Zoom (\$50 per position, per Sunday). If you would like training, please contact Gary Fritz ([gwfritz22@gmail.com](mailto:gwfritz22@gmail.com)). If you’ve been trained and would like to sign-up for duty, [click here](#).

**Committee Minutes** – Our Clerk of Session, Deborah Crim, has posted committee minutes up on the bulletin board between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall. To keep informed, read what our committees have been discussing.

**Lost and Found** – Check out the lost and found, also known as, “the coat rack between the Sanctuary and Social Hall”. There are many water bottles, along with other miscellaneous items. Items not re-moved will be donated locally.

**Per Capita: What is it?** – It’s Stone Church’s support of our denominational church structure: San Jose Presbytery (local), Synod of the Pacific (regional), and PC(USA) General Assembly (national). Each local Presbyterian Church supports this structure. Our church’s commitment, based on 300 members, is \$12,450.

Paying your Per Capita portion (**\$41.50 per member**) is a **voluntary** commitment on your part, not “Presbyterian dues.” Any of that church commitment that isn’t paid by individuals has to be paid from church funds that could have gone to other useful purposes. Your payment represents your



willingness to be a participant in our shared mission to God's service with all the other members of all the other churches of the PCUSA denomination. When making your payment, note "Per Capita" on the donation.

**The Banner** on the front wall was created for Virginia Thibeaux and Anne Towler's (Stone members') Holy Union Celebration (8/30/2003) at First Presbyterian Church of San Anselmo; presided by the Rev Janie Spahr. This is appliquéd, quilted, and painted work of art is patterned after the liturgical artist HeQi's "Ruth and Naomi;" for which permission was given by the artist himself. It portrays the portion of Ruth 1:12-22 where Ruth and Naomi are clinging together (with the basket of bread nearby, signifying food for their journey or the bread made from gleaning in Boaz's fields). This was a joint creation of Virginia Thibeaux and the Rev. Shelly Holle, who led a team of quilters in a mad, scramble to finish in time for the service. To view the original:



[https://www.heqiart.com/store/p120/17\\_Ruth-%26-Naomi\\_Artist\\_Proof\\_.html](https://www.heqiart.com/store/p120/17_Ruth-%26-Naomi_Artist_Proof_.html)

#### **January 28 – February 4, 2024**

##### **Sunday (1/28)**

8:30 - 9am  
9:30 - 10:30am  
10:30 - 11am  
11am - 12pm  
5 - 7pm

##### **Snow Trip**

Choir Practice - SA  
Worship - SA & Zoom  
Coffee Fellowship - SH  
Adult Ed - SA  
Chromatic Convergence - SA

##### **Monday (1/29)**

8:15 - 9:15am

Stand Against Human  
Trafficking – Lincoln Ave  
Vivace - SH  
Vivace - SA

##### **Tuesday (1/30)**

##### **Wednesday (1/31)**

4:30 - 6:30pm  
7:30 - 9pm

Vivace - SH/SA  
Choir Rehearsal - SH

##### **Thursday (2/1)**

10 - 11am  
5 - 6:30pm  
6:30 - 8pm

##### **1<sup>st</sup> Day of Black History Month**

Emerald Circle - Zoom  
Vivace - SA  
Vivace - SH

##### **Friday (2/2)**

##### **Saturday (2/3)**

10am - 12pm  
1 - 3pm

Resounding Achord - SA  
Prayer Shawl Ministry

##### **Next Sunday (2/4) Bruce off**

8:30 - 9am  
9:30 - 10:30am  
10:30 - 11am  
11am - 12pm  
5 - 7pm

Choir Practice - SA  
Worship & Communion  
Coffee Fellowship - SH  
Adult Ed - SA  
Chromatic Converg.

#### **Late JANUARY Anniversaries**

(28<sup>th</sup>) Emily & Jody Meacham (1984)

**FEBRUARY Birthdays** (1<sup>st</sup>) Elizabeth Sarmiento; (2<sup>nd</sup>) Ryann McManus; (3<sup>rd</sup>) Kathie Drake; (4<sup>th</sup>) Jane Martin; (7<sup>th</sup>) Steven Graham; (8<sup>th</sup>) Steve Nelson, Dawn Priedum; (11<sup>th</sup>) Thomas Snodgrass; (12<sup>th</sup>) Michelle Walters; (17<sup>th</sup>) Jonathan Miller; (18<sup>th</sup>) Kent Campbell, Jutta Sargent; (20<sup>th</sup>) Bill Lakatos; (23<sup>rd</sup>) Susi Pixley; (24<sup>th</sup>) Nicky Hiestand, Karen Wessels; (25<sup>th</sup>) Kate Wheatley; (26<sup>th</sup>) Justin Hiestand; (27<sup>th</sup>) Nancy Paul.

#### **The Elders of the Session**

Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Fran Basso Carter Edwards Gary Fritz Barbara Krause Brad Tips	Jeremy Easton Mel Goertz Chris Lee Jeff Mattan	Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg

#### **The Board of Deacons**

Moderator ~ Marta Espinal (marta.espinal@sbcglobal.net)

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Michele Edwards Kathleen Oliver Nancy Paul Jenny Pichon Maureen Searing	Gail Chaid Sheri Cunningham Janice Goertz Chris Nilson Laraine Pitcher	Charla Bunton-Johnson Neil Coleman Marta Espinal Kerry House-Nelson Darrin Johnson Karen Wessels

#### **Nominating Committee**

Chair ~ Ruth McCreath (rdmccreath@aol.com)

Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Janice Goertz Claudia Hamm Steve Nelson	Derk Johnson Don Skipwith Lizanne Oliver

#### **Late JANUARY Birthdays**

(28<sup>th</sup>) Amber Rasura, Aaron McNelis; (29<sup>th</sup>) Connie Gum, Alyssa Blodgett; (30<sup>th</sup>) John Lococo, Chris Coleman.

## **STAFF DIRECTORY**

**The Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow** – Bridge Pastor  
breyeschow@gmail.com

**The Rev. Irene Pak Lee** - Associate Pastor  
irene\_pak@stonechurch.org

**Rev. Dr. David McCreath** - Parish Associate  
rovinrev@gmail.com

**The Rev. Marge Palmer** - Pastor Emerita

**Nancy Kromm** - Choir Director  
nancy\_kromm@stonechurch.org

**Barbara Vella** – Organist  
barbvella2@gmail.com

**Peggy Spool** - Children's Choir Director

**Amber Biscardi** – Interim Church School  
Administrator  
amber\_biscardi@stonechurch.org

**Jennifer Scott-Brand** - Office & Facility Manager  
office\_manager@stonechurch.org

**Ruthanne Martinez** - Treasurer  
treasurer@stonechurch.org

**ASL Interpreter Coordinator** –  
stonechurch.stephfoisy@gmail.com

**Liliana Borda** - Nursery Supervisor

**Victor & Sonia Perez** - Custodians

**Hilleguus Faber** - Memorial Coordinator

**Lizanne Oliver** - Wedding Coordinator

**Mary Johnson** - Parish Nurse

**Men's Mission & Ministry (MMM)** - Leland Wong  
hikingscco@gmail.com

**Prayer Chain Coordinator** -Maureen Searing  
mosearing@gmail.com

**Presbyterian Women** - Jan Keifer - keiferjj@sbcglobal.net;

**Stephen Ministry Coordinator** - Michele Smith  
michelesmith801@comcast.net

**StoneCares** - Stonecares@stonechurch.org

**Web Master** – Jody Meacham - jtmjr@pacbell.net