The Preparation for the Word

Prelude
“Rhosymedre” Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)
Barbara Vella, Substitute Organist

Welcome
The Rev. Irene Pak Lee, Associate Pastor

Moment for Mission: “Care First, Jails Last” Meredith Hurley

Call to Worship
Guy Lohman, Liturgist

Come, all who are thirsty.
Come, all who are seeking.
Come, all who are waiting.
Come, all who need rest.
Come, all who dream dreams.
Come—whether you’re young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.
This is God’s house. All are welcome here.
Let us worship holy God.

Opening Hymn #457 “I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art” (choir)

1
I greet thee, who my sure Redeemer art,
my only trust and Savior of my heart,
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.

2
Thou art the King of mercy and of grace,
reigning omnipotent in ev’ry place;
so come, O King, and our whole being sway;
shine on us with the light of thy pure day.

3
Thou art the Life, by which alone we live,
and all our substance and our strength receive;
sustain us by thy faith and by thy power,
and give us strength every trying hour.

4
Thou hast the true and perfect gentleness,
no harshness hast thou and no bitterness:
O grant to us the grace we find in Thee,
that we may dwell in perfect unity.
Call to Confession
There is something so healing, so life-giving, about telling our stories. In the prayer of confession, that is what we get to do. The mask comes off. Any pretense of perfection is removed. We let the pressure to perform slip away and we sit here, face to face with God, sharing honestly who we long to be.

Friends, there is healing here. There is life to be gained here. So join me in this moment of honesty. Join me in the prayer of confession.

Prayer of Confession
Holy God,
We treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, we stockpile our value in earthly things—in trophies and awards, in likes and follows, in wealth and power. Forgive us for creating our own measuring stick.

Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts that we won’t be forgotten if we slow down. We won’t be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon
Friends, take a deep breath. Release the tension in your jaw. There is good news here. For even when we stumble, even when we take the easy way out, even when we forget our own self-worth, even when we lose our way—we belong to God. Say it with me—

We are loved. We are claimed. We are under God’s wing. We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.

The Passing of the Peace
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Please remain seated and greet folks seated around you with a sign of peace

Receiving New Members (see insert)
Charla Bunton-Johnson & Darrin Johnson; Donna Erickson & The Rev. George Erickson**; Juliet Githegi; Dorothy Rowe; Virginia Thibeaux & Anne Towler.

**We welcome Rev. Erickson as a member of the Presbytery.
Pastors cannot be members of a church.

We Listen To God’s Word
The Old Testament Lesson  Isaiah 55:1-9 (O.T., p. 685)
Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

**Anthem**  “Lead Me, Lord” Traditional Hymn  Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director

**Children’s Sermon**  (Children dismissed to church school)  Derk Johnson, Elder

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

**Sermon**  “Learning from a Fig Tree”  The Rev. Dr. David McCreath

**We Respond to the Good News**

**Affirmation of Faith**  The Rev. Irene Pak Lee

We believe that the God of the cosmos is at work here.  
We believe that God is fertilizing the soil. We believe that God is planting roots.  
We believe that God is growing fruit that is yet to be tasted. But until that promised day when the fig tree stands tall and swords are beaten into plowshares, we believe: when our work does not bear fruit, God still loves us.  
When our soil grows dry and cracked, God still longs for us. When all seems hopeless here on earth, God holds hope for us. The God of the cosmos is at work here. We believe. Help our unbelief. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

**Call for the Offering**  The Rev. Irene Pak Lee

**Offertory**  “O Innocent Lamb of God”  Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

*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*  Guy Lohman

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**  The Rev. Irene Pak Lee

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 #420  “God of Grace and God of Glory” (choir)

1
God of grace and God of glory,
on thy people pour thy power;
Crown thine ancient church’s story;
bring its bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.

2
Lo! the hosts of evil round us
Scorn thy Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
Free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days.

3
Cure thy children's warring madness;
bend our pride to thy control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal,
lest we miss thy kingdom's goal.

4
Set our feet on lofty places;
Gird our lives that they may be
armored with all Christ like graces,
Pledged to set all captives free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
That we fail not them not Thee!
That we fail not them nor Thee!

Charge and Benediction  The Rev. Dr. David McCreath

Postlude  “Postlude on an Old Irish Melody” Charles Villiers Stanford

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 stand

ASL Interpreter ~ Amberle Walsh

Original bulletin art created by Willow Glen Artist Lynden Keith Johnson.
Artist Note: For a theme for my Lenten discipline this year I have chosen a title: “What the World Really Needs Now is love.” Todays’ cover: We love being compassionate.

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Welcome Guests and Visitors! We hope you already feel at home among us here at Stone Church. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship. If you have children, they are welcome to worship with you for the entire service, or to join the other children during the Children’s Sermon & Church School.

We Welcome the sound of little ones during worship: If your baby gets too wiggly for you, you may take them to the nursery, located in the hallway between the Sanctuary & the Social Hall.

Hybrid Worship – We’ll continue in-person and Zoom/Facebook. Protocols will remain with limited capacity, masks, choir-only singing. If you are able, please sign up for in-person services with this link: https://rsvp.church/r/G6MPyS7U

The Retable Floral Display is dedicated to Mel and Janice Goertz’ anniversary. Congratulations from the Worship committee!

Adult Ed (11am) Sanctuary - Care First, Jails Last: Mass Incarceration in Santa Clara County - Stone has a history of providing care to those who are incarcerated by serving them communion. It is our responsibility as Christians to care for the oppressed and to take to heart Jesus’s procla-mation
in Luke to free the prisoners. Join us for Adult Ed next week to learn about Santa Clara County incarceration and the recent vote to spend over $315 million dollars to construct a new jail. We will also hear from Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) about an ongoing campaign for alternatives to incarceration. Contact Meredith Hurley, meredith.g.hurley@gmail.com for info or questions.

**Men’s Book Group** meets tomorrow Mon, Mar 21st (7 pm) at Eric Olsen’s, 544 Snyder Ave., SJ, to discuss “Nothing For You Here” by Fiona Hill. All men are welcome; even if you haven’t read it, come anyway; for the conversation, wine & snacks.

**Weekly Lenten Taize Services** continue this coming Tue, Mar 22nd in-person. Please come explore this time of quiet, music, scripture, and prayer. Sanctuary doors open at 6:30 pm and the service is from 6:45 - 7:30 pm. We’ll have these services through Lent (Mar 22, 29; Apr 5, 12).

**Upcoming Memorials** – Jack Cunningham’s service is next Sun, Mar 27th (2pm) and the memorial for Betty Stearns is Sat, Apr 2nd (3pm).

**Seniors in Transition** will meet on Thu, Mar 31st (11am) via Zoom. We will continue to share stories of our lives. If you would like to receive a reminder about upcoming meetings, please contact Rev. Pak Lee (irene_pak@stonechurch.org) and have your name added to the list. We hope you’ll join us as we share and get to know one another more deeply! **Meeting ID**: 464 534 8883 Zoom Link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4645348883

**One Great Hour of Sharing Offering** will be collected on Palm Sunday, April 10th. Through your gifts to this nation-wide PC(USA) effort, you serve people locally and around the world by alleviating hunger, rebuilding after crises or catastrophe, and working with communities to overcome oppression.

**COVID-19 Antigen Rapid Tests** are available in the Narthex and in the office (M-F 9-1pm). California’s State Testing Task Force was offering test kits; we received 500.

**Ushers Needed** - We need ushers for upcoming Sundays. Contact Jodi Lax (jodi.d.lax@gmail.com) in you are available. Training can be done the morning of the service; it is easy and fun!

**Donate to Support Refugees in Ukraine** - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Presbyterian World Mission are working together to pro-vide humanitarian assistance to Ukraine and Central Europe. They’re collecting funds to sup-port refugees through their Disaster Relief-International Refugee Programs. StoneWorks has committed to giving $2,000 to the program. If you would like to contribute as an individual, visit https://tinyurl.com/supportukrainerefugees to make your donation.

**Donate to Stone Church** – 1) PayPal: Use your PayPal account, send money to office_manager@stonechurch.org OR use Stone’s PayPal account via the “donate” button at www.stonechurch.org/ (fees = 2.89% + 49¢ per transaction); 2) Use your online banking to send a check. 3) Drop a check in the locked mailbox outside the office door (at church). 4) Mail to 1937 Lincoln Ave, SJ CA 95125. 5. Sign-up for auto withdrawal from your checking. Contact the office manager for more info.

**The Nominating Committee** is looking for a few good volunteers for our next class of Elders and Deacons. If you are interested, or know someone who would be a good candidate, please contact a member of the committee: Julie Ludwig, Mary Johnson, Derk Johnson, Mel Goertz, Leland Wong, or Jim Hagen.

**75th Anniversary Celebration Weekend** – Fri, Apr 29th (7pm) is a Family Sing-a-long and Campfire; Sat, April 30th (6pm) an adults-only program in the Sanctuary with a Tapas (small plate) dinner on the patio; and Sun, May 1st Worship will include former Pastors, followed by an old-fashioned church potluck.
Our liturgist this morning is **Guy Lohman**.

Today’s Deacon greeter is **Kathleen Oliver**.

This week’s ushers include **Bob & Fran Cole**.

You are cordially invited to continue enjoying God’s grace by joining us at our coffee fellowship in the Social Hall after the Worship service.

During March, the **Taize & Worship Committee** and friends are serving coffee and refreshments.

**Membership Inquiry Luncheons**
For more info, send your contact info to Irene_pak@stonechurch.org

Our next one is in November.

### March 20 – 27, 2022

**Sunday (3/20)**
- 8:30 - 9am: Choir Practice - SA
- 9:30 - 10:30am: Worship - SA & Zoom
- 10 - 10:30am: Church School
- 10:30 - 11am: Coffee Fellowship - Patio
- 11am: Adult Ed - SA

**Monday (3/21)**
- 2:30pm: PW Book Group #2 - Zoom
- 6 - 8pm: Vivace - SA
- 6:30 - 8pm: Vivace (Ensemble) - SH
- 7pm: Men's Book Group - Eric Olson’s

**Tuesday (3/22)**
- 6:45 - 7:30pm: Lenten Taizé Service - SA
- 7pm: Deacons - Zoom

**Wednesday (3/23)**
- 4:15 - 6:45pm: Vivace (Int A&B) - SH

**Thursday (3/24)**
- 6 - 8pm: Vivace (Ensemble) - SH/SA

**Friday (3/25)**
- 10 - 11:30pm: Y.Group - Broom Ball - Offsite

**Saturday (3/26)**
- 10am - 3pm: All Church Work Day
- 1 - 3pm: Prayer Shawl Ministry

**Next Sunday (3/27)**
- 8:30 - 9am: Choir Practice - SA
- 9:30 - 10:30am: Worship - SA & Zoom
- 10:30 - 11am: Coffee Fellowship - Patio
- 2 - 3pm: Jack Cunningham Memorial - SA/K/Patio

### Elected Leaders
#### The Elders of the Session
Clerk of Session ~ Mel Goertz

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<th>Class of 2022</th>
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<td>Amity Bateman</td>
<td>Bob Cole</td>
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<td>Tammy Coleman</td>
<td>Derk Johnson</td>
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<td>Todd Davidson</td>
<td>Emily Meacham</td>
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<td>Charlotte McNelis</td>
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#### The Board of Deacons
Moderator ~ Jodi Lax

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<td>Sue Evans</td>
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<td>Jim Hagan</td>
<td>Nanci Eksterowicz</td>
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<td>Kelsey Lax</td>
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<td>Kathleen Oliver</td>
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<td>Scott Nelson</td>
<td>Nancy Shearer</td>
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<td>Nancy Paul</td>
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<td>Brandon Walters</td>
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### March Birthdays
(2nd) Babila Mfonfu; (3rd) Joyce Summers; (4th) Kathleen O’Brien; (5th) Carol Martin; (6th) Mary Jo Blazek; (8th) Jan Keifer; Diane Van den Bosch; (10th) Lea Lawrence-Moiso; (12th) Vern Tegger; (14th) Grant Nilson; (16th) Caryl Westberg, Jennifer Scott-Brand; (20th) Grant Balao; (24th) Fran Cole; (25th) Susan Erickson-Viitanen; (26th) Kelley Alwood; (28th) Andrew Edwards; (29th) Cindy Bevan; (31st) Eric Bateman.

### March Anniversaries
(15th) Sue & Jay Evans (1969); (19th) Nancy & Gary Weiss (1967).

**Mail:** 1937 Lincoln Ave., SJ 95125
**Office M-F 9am - 1pm 1108 Clark Way**
**1 (408) 269 - 1593**
**www.stonechurch.org**

Monday: Pastor’s day off
STAFF DIRECTORY

The Rev. Irene Pak Lee - Associate Pastor
irene_pak@stonechurch.org

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

The Rev. Marge Palmer - Pastor Emerita
  Nancy Kromm - Choir Director
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  Barbara Vella - Substitute Organist
  Peggy Spool - Children’s Choir Director

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Jennifer Scott-Brand - Office & Facility Manager
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  Joanne Vliet - StoneNews Editor
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  Liliana Borda - Nursery Supervisor
  Victor & Sonia Perez - Custodians

Hilleguus Faber - Memorial Coordinator

Lizanne Oliver - Wedding Coordinator
Mary Johnson - Parish Nurse

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hikingscco@gmail.com

Prayer Chain Coordinators –
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  Presbyterian Women – Michele Smith
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Stephen Ministry Coordinator - Pauline Moore
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StoneCares - Stonecares@stonechurch.org