



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

**September 29, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.
19th Sunday after Pentecost**

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

*“Schmucke Dich”
(Soul Adorn Yourself in Gladness)*

*Paul Manz (1919-2009)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell, Transitional Pastor

Introit

“It is a Good Thing”

*Kenneth Kosche
Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director*

***Call to Worship**

Emily Meacham, Liturgist

Come; let us gather as one body, called by Christ to live a life worthy of the calling we have received.

With humility, gentleness, and patience, we will strive to bear with one another in love.

There is one body and one Spirit, just as we are called to one hope.

We are united in Christ, who gives grace to each of us for the work of ministry.

Let us grow together in faith, as we build one another up in love.

We seek to live as Christ’s body, joined together in unity, using our gifts to serve and transform the world.

In Christ, we are no longer strangers, but one people, called to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God.

Let us worship the God who calls us, equips us, and unites us in love.

***Opening Hymn #356** “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

1
Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount I'm fixed upon it
mount of God's redeeming love.

2
Here I raise my Ebenezer;
hither by Thy help I've come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
bought me with his precious blood.

3
Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee:
prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart, O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

Prayer of Adoration

Call to Confession (from I Peter 5:6-7)

Humble yourselves under God's mighty hand, that God may lift you up in due time. Cast all your anxiety on God because God cares for you.

Prayer of Confession

Holy One, together we confess that though we sing of your love and proclaim your reign over all creation, we too often act as though you are distant and powerless. Remind us of your loving kindness and help us to live with confidence in your presence today and in hope for life with you forever. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon (Hebrews 4:14-16)

*Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
In Christ, we are loved and forgiven.*

Thanks be to God!

***The Passing of the Peace**

*The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.*

We Listen To God's Word

The First Lesson

Isaiah 11:1-9 (O.T., p. 640)

A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of its roots. The spirit of God shall rest on them, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of God. Their delight shall be in the fear of God.

They shall not judge by what their eyes see, or decide by what their ears hear; but with righteousness they shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; they shall strike the earth with the rod of their mouth, and with the breath of their lips they shall remove the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around their waist, and faithfulness the belt around their loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put their hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of God as the waters cover the sea.

Anthem

"Draw the Circle Wide"

Gordon Light and Mark Miller

The Second Lesson

Ephesians 4:1-16 (N.T., p. 193)

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'

(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.)

The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Sermon

"The Community of God"

Rev. Fred Harrell

Prayers of the People

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

“Jesus Still Lead on”

Donald Busarow (1934-2011)

*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

God, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our Savior and our God. Amen

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion servers ~Sheri Cunningham, Dick Kistler, Emily Meacham

Invitation to the Table

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

...Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS

Karl Digerness, 2012

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est!_

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...Great is the mystery of the faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

...And now as Christ has taught us, we pray together:

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.

***Sharing the Bread & Cup**

Communion Music

Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your Son: sustain us with your Spirit, that we may serve you here on earth until our joy is complete in heaven, and we share in the eternal banquet with Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

***Closing Hymn #442** *"The Church's One Foundation"*

1
The Church's one foundation
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation
By water and the word.
From heaven He came and sought her
To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her
And for her life He died.

2
Elect from every nation,
Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation
One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses,
Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses,
With every grace endued.

3
Though with a scornful wonder
This world sees her oppressed,
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping;
Their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping
Shall be the morn of song.

4
Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation
Of peace forevermore;
Till with the vision glorious
Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Toccata Giocosa"

Ian Hunt (b. 1971)

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

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

Thank You...

ASL ~

Ushers ~Marta Espinal & Jodi Lax

Communion prep ~ Jodi Lax, Derk & Mary Johnson

Floral ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

Sound ~ Steve Nelson

Zoom ~ Kelsey Lax

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

Pastor's day off: Friday

If you're interested in becoming a member of Stone Church, please contact the office (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 September, Budget & Finance (B&F) 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 and the Social Hall. It's open each Sunday for children ages 0-3.

Children's Church School – Children meet in the Fireside Room (stone building on the other side of the Social Hall). Children will come to the sanctuary to participate in Communion.

Each Week, Stone Church Invites You to share Holy Communion. We use the intinction method, dipping the bread in the cup—amber is juice, dark red is wine. When the time comes, we will process down the center aisle; take bread (in cup or cut – gluten free avail) and dip; the server will say a few words; partake of the moistened bread; return to your seat by the side aisles.

Our Choir Director has provided additional information (see back of communion insert) about today's music. The introit was changed since print time, so the information on the introit does not relate.

Today's Flowers are in celebration of Mel Goertz's 93rd birthday tomorrow, September 30th.

Adult Ed - (11am SA) - Bob Cole curated this fall's Adult Ed program with a broad range of topics including religion, health, technology, politics, and more.

Today - *The Science of Compassion* with Alice McNelis. - What is the difference between compassion and empathy? Have they been mapped in the brain? Is compassion fatigue real? How can self-compassion affect your health? Join us as we answer these questions and learn more about the latest research in this quickly expanding field.

Alice, a Stone Church member, received her BS in Neuroscience and Behavior, and MS in Physical Therapy. Recently she finished a year of training to be an *Ambassador of Compassion* through Stanford Medicine's Applied Compassion Training!

Next Week – Oct 6th – Rev. Sharon LeClaire will talk about grief as it is in our culture and scripture.

In 2 Weeks – Oct 13th - **The League of Women Voters** will review four ballot propositions & they want to know which ones you'd like to discuss. Please send Bob Cole (famcole@pacbell.net) the top four (4) props you'd like discussed and he will send them onto the LWV.

STOP Human Trafficking! - Take action and stand with us as we call attention to human trafficking by standing with our signs on Lincoln Ave. 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. If this issue speaks to you, please join us as we take our “stand” **tomorrow, Mon, Sep 30th** (8:15 a.m.), meeting in the church office. Signs and brochures are provided. Questions? Contact Claudia Hamm (jinchamm@gmail.com).

Little Dresses for Africa - It's time again for sewing! **Today**, there will be a sign-up table in the Social Hall, along with some fabric, bias tape, as well as sewing instructions. **Little Dresses for Africa** is a 501c3 Christian organization that provides relief to children in Africa. Dresses are distributed through orphanages, schools, and churches, to plant in the hearts of the girls that they are worthy. Those who sign-up will work on the dresses at home and bring them to the church office on or before Wed, Oct 16th. You provide your own fabric and sewing supplies. Please contact Claudia Hamm with questions. Happy sewing! (jinchamm@gmail.com, or 408-356-6665).

October's Taize Service is **this coming Tue, Oct 1st** (1st Tuesday of every month). Please come explore this time of quiet, music, scripture, and prayer. Sanctuary doors open at 6:30pm, service starts at 6:45pm.

Donate Food Next Sunday – The 1st Sunday of the month, we collect and donate food for Sacred Heart Community Services. **Next week** our collection baskets will be in the Narthex to gather donated food/goods. Consider bringing one of these: pop-top cans and other packaged food items (no homemade food); gently used or new blankets and linens; hygiene items of unopened toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, etc.; diapers (both infant and adult); unopened infant formula; new socks, and new underwear for men, women and children; and gently used or new sleeping bags.

The Peace & Global Witness Offering, one of 4 PCUSA nation-wide special offerings, will be collected on World Communion Sunday, **next week** (see insert).

Rebuilding Party – For 10 years, the Men's Mission & Ministry group has worked with Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley (RTSV), participating in 8-10 Rebuilding Days. Some were fun days, and some were interesting and challenging, but all were rewarding. The homes worked on were largely those of low income, seniors, and immigrants who might not have been able to stay in their homes without the help; and the owners were always deeply thankful.

As a thank you to all who have helped over this last decade, Bill Ribble (bill@ribble.net) is inviting all RSTV veterans to his home (1531 Altamont Ave, SJ) for snacks and drinks, **Sat, Oct 12th** (2:30-5:30pm). Enjoy some fellowship and reminisce about the fun (and sometimes hair-raising) times!

Enneagram Workshop – Save the date of Sat. Nov 9th (1-4pm). We'll have an enneagram workshop at Stone Church. Details to follow.

Dementia Caregiver Support Group has been meeting twice a month (2nd and 4th Fridays at 9:30 am), in the conference room/library, to support one another regarding the challenges of caring for a loved one with dementia. At this time, they are inviting additional members from the congregation to attend the group. You do not need to be a primary caregiver to be part of the group; if someone in your extended family or a very dear friend is experiencing serious memory loss, you may find it helpful. If you are interested, contact Marsha Wadley (408-489-4277 or marshawadley@hotmail.com); or Kathleen O'Brien (408-499-9275) or (kahtleenobrien2004@gmail.com).

A Season of Peace - Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) designates Sep 8th - Oct 6th (World Communion Sunday) as “A Season of Peace.” The Liturgical Arts group will recognize this season with displays of

paper cranes. The mobile of colorful cranes, honor the diversity of our culture which can nevertheless come together to make peace. The traditional white cranes on the front wall of the Sanctuary remember the twelve year old Sadako Sasaki of Hiroshima, who famously completed her goal of folding 1000 “peace cranes” before dying of leukemia in 1955.

September 29 – October 6, 2024

Sunday (9/29)

8 :30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
 9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion - SA & Zoom
 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship -SH
 11am - 12pm Adult Ed - SA
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence

Monday (9/30)

8:15 - 9:15am Stand Against Human Traff. Lincoln Ave
 4 - 7:30pm Vivace - SH
 6 - 7:30pm Vivace - SA

Tuesday (10/1)

5:30 - 6:30pm Worship Mtg - Conf.Room
 6:30 - 7:30pm Taizé Service - SA
 7:30pm B&G, StoneWorks - Zoom

Wednesday (10/2)

1 - 3pm Amethyst Circle - Zoom
 3 - 5pm Stephen Min Leaders - CR
 4:30 - 6:15pm Vivace - SH
 7:30 - 9pm Choir Practice - SH

Thursday (10/3)

10 - 11am Emerald Circle - Zoom
 5 - 8pm Vivace - SH

Friday (10/4)

Saturday (10/5)

Next Sunday (10/6) World Communion
 8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
 9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion
 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
 11am - 12pm Adult Ed - SA
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence

LATE SEPTEMBER Birthdays - (29th) Mary Johnson & Michael Wheatley; (30th) Salese Kanter, Mel Goertz, & Ginger Lubecke.

EARLY OCTOBER Birthdays - (1st) Sarah Ciccarello; (2nd) Jeff Mattan & Elvet Moore; (3rd) Wayne Martin & Diana Boydston; (7th) Suzy Brooks, Shannon Bayatpur & Judi Kaiser; (8th) Jay Evans

OCTOBER Anniversaries –

Dawn & Lionel Predium (10/8/2006); Chris Coleman & Marta Espinal (10/9/1999); Bill & Mike Raby-Brown (10/19/2013); Fran & Bob Cole (10/20/1979); Nancy & Leroy Kromm (10/23/1982); Fran Basso & Julia Kraemer (10/31/2014)

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Jeremy Easton Mel Goertz Jeff Mattan	Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg	Judi Kaiser Jodi Lax Matthew Marcotte Marsha Wadley
The Board of Deacons		
Moderator ~ Janice Goertz (janicegoertz@gmail.com)		
Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Gail Chaid Sheri Cunningham Janice Goertz Chris Nilson Laraine Pitcher	Neil Coleman Marta Espinal Kerry House-Nelson Karen Wessels	Mary Jo Blazek Jim Hagan Mary Ann Hudson Jenny Pichon Dorothy Rowe
Nominating Committee		
Chair ~ Ruth McCreath (rdmccreath@aol.com)		
Class of 2025		Class of 2026
Derk Johnson Lizanne Oliver		Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith

Rev. Fred Harrell – Transitional Pastor
fred@stonechurch.org

Rev. Dr. David McCreath – Parish Associate
rovinrev@gmail.com

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 – Church School Administrator (Interim)
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) – Bill Ribble
bill@ribble.net

Prayer Chain Coordinator – Mary-Ann Hudson
majm.hudson@gmail.com

Presbyterian Women – Sheri Cunningham
shericnngghm@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry Coordinator – Michele Smith
michelesmith801@comcast.net

StoneCares – Stonecares@stonechurch.org

Web Master - Jody Meacham - jtmjr@pacbell.net