

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

**July 28, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.
10th 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

“Concerto I in G Major” BWV 592

*J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell, Transitional Pastor

Call to Worship *(Psalm 117)*

Charlotte Dickson, Liturgist

Praise the Lord, all you nations! Extol the Lord, all you peoples! For great is God’s steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Let us praise the Lord!

***Opening Hymn #263** *“Immortal Invisible”*

*1
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.*

*2
Unresting, unchanging, 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.*

*3
To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;
In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
And wither and perish; but naught changeth
Thee.*

*4
Thou reignest in glory, Thou rulest 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!*

Call to Confession (*Psalm 36:7-9*)

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings. They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights. For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

Prayer of Confession

God of love, it is your will that we should love you with heart, soul, mind, strength, and our neighbor as ourselves, but we are not sufficient for these things. We confess that our affections continually turn away from you; from purity to lust, from freedom to captivity, from compassion to indifference, from fullness to emptiness. Have mercy on us. Help us to order our lives by your law of love, and conform us to the image of your loving Son, Jesus, that we may shine before the world to your glory. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon (*1 John 4:9*)

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

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

Genesis 50:15-21 (O.T., p. 48)

Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, 'What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?' So they approached Joseph, saying, 'Your father gave this instruction before he died, "Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you." Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father.' Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, 'We are here as your slaves.' But Joseph said to them, 'Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones.' In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Anthem

"Ave Maria" from Cavalleria Rusticana

Pietro Mascagni (1863-1945); Sunny Huang, soprano

The Second Lesson

Matthew 18: 23-35 (N.T., p. 20)

'For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, "Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, "Pay what you owe." Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him,

“Have patience with me, and I will pay you.” But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he should pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, “You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?” And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he should pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.’

Sermon

“The Hardest Thing Jesus Asks Us to Do”

Rev. Fred Harrell

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

Offertory

“Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring”

J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

***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**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Communion servers ~ Jim Hagan, Guy Lohman, Emily Meacham
Communion Music “The Gift of Love” arr. by John Carter (b. 1930)*

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



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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**

Prayer after Communion

Living Christ, thank you for this meal that nourishes our bodies and spirits. By feasting on this bread of life, your presence reminds us of our belovedness, even when broken. For you, Holy Mystery, companion us through all things, and sustain us by your love. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

***Closing Hymn**

"Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners"

1
*Jesus! what a Friend for sinners!
Jesus! Lover of my soul;
friends may fail me, foes assail me;
He, my Savior, makes me whole.*

(Refrain)
***Hallelujah! what a Savior!
Hallelujah! what a Friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving,
He is with me to the end.***

2
*Jesus! what a Strength in weakness!
Let me hide myself in Him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing,
He, my Strength, my vict'ry wins.*
(Refrain)

3
*Jesus! what a Help in sorrow!
While the billows o'er me roll,
even when my heart is breaking,
He, my Comfort, helps my soul.*
(Refrain).

4
*Jesus! what a Guide and Keeper!
While the tempest still is high,
storms about me, night o'ertakes me,
He, my Pilot, hears my cry.*
(Refrain)

5
*Jesus! I do now receive Him,
more than all in Him I find;
He hath granted me forgiveness;
I am His, and He is mine!*
(Refrain)

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Now the Silence"

Charles Ore (b. 1936)

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

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

Thank You...

ASL ~ Stephanie Foisy

Deacon Greeters ~ Dorothy Rowe

Ushers ~ Lizanne & Fred Oliver

Communion prep ~ Jeanette Rapp, Kate Wheatley, Derk and Mary Johnson

Floral ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

Sound ~

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 July, Choir 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 Returns in September - If your kids need something to do during worship, there are children's activity boxes available in the Narthex.

Stone Church Invites All People to share in 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.

The Flowers Today honor Ruth and Rev. Dr. David McCreath's 65th wedding anniversary!

Sermon Theme – The Christlike love that absorbs the blow and responds with forgiveness is the only real hope this world has for real change. To respond to hate with hate enshrines the status quo, and only guarantees that hate will win—it's what keeps the world as it is. Hatred, no matter how justifiable, simply fuels the endless cycle of revenge. And Christianity has more to offer the world than recycled revenge.

Swimming at the Wheatley's Today! Kate and Michael invite all families with kids to drop by their house **today** (12:30 – 4pm) to swim in their pool. Bring your lunch, towels, and bathing suits to 1337 Echo Valley Drive, SJ. The Wheatleys will provide drinks and some snacks. RSVP to (kate@katewheatley.org, or 1-408-375-6945).

Youth Gathering – San Jose Presbytery Youth are joining at Stone for a Board Game Party, **next Sun, Aug 4th** (1-3pm). All those entering into 6th grade – through 12th grade are invited; bring a game; bring a friend; lunch is provided!



Willow Glen Cares supports struggling WGMS and WGHS students by offering timely, targeted, and tangible support to help them attend school with dignity. As the school year begins, their goal is to raise at least \$10,000. To donate,

or for more information, go to: <https://www.willowglenfoundation.org/programs-activities/willow-glen-cares/#donate>

Donate Food Next Sunday – The First Sunday of the month we collect and donate food for Sacred Heart Community Services. **Next week** we'll have our collection baskets 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; new underwear for men, women and children; and gently used or new sleeping bags.

Rev. Bob Bowles' Memorial will be held at Presbyterian Church Los Gatos on **Sat, Aug 10th** (10am). All are invited.

Corner Sign Refurbished – After worship look at our newly refurbished wooden sign on the corner of Lincoln and Clark. A team of creatives worked to remove the 6 inches of rotten post wood, sand, clean, stain, paint, and re-install our nameplate to the community. Countless hours have been spent over the past few weeks, in the hot sun, by Gabriel Faber, Bob Fraser, Guy Lohman, Pat McDaid, and Fred Oliver. Jeanette Rapp also added her talents in the painted lettering. She would point out, the PCUSA logo is not true to color, but she chose colors that would not recede into the background of the dark wooden sign, but instead would stand out! Much like we would like to do for our surrounding community. Thank you to all involved!

Stained Glass Panels – There are two “reclaimed” stained glass panels hanging in the Social Hall. Along with two smaller versions, these two panels were stored in one of our basement furnace rooms; laying in water, dusty and forgotten. They match the stained glass in the Fireside Room and are possibly the windows taken out during the 2005 major remodel of the church. The two smaller windows now hang in the Lincoln House. They've been cleaned up, and 3 of 4 have been reframed by Gabriel Faber; he based his design on the one panel that still has its original framing. The two panels in the Social Hall were recently installed by Pat McDaid. Thank you to all who have helped reclaim these hidden pieces of Stone Church history!

StoneWorks July Update - Serving as the congregation's driving force for mission, StoneWorks promotes, encourages, and supports Stone Church's mission activity and/or that of its committees. We've made these donations recently to these Community Partners:

- **\$2000 to Razing the Bar**, a local organization begun by, and providing comprehensive mentorship and housing support services to, current and former foster youth. <https://www.razingthebar.org/>
- **\$1000 to Immanuel House** in downtown San Jose, (started as a mission project of San Jose Presbytery with a grant from Immanuel Presbyterian Church, which was closing) now is its own non-profit <https://www.immanuelhousesj.org/>. It is home to about a dozen refugees as their first home in the United States. Volunteers are invited to help make their transition easier. To learn more, please contact admin@immanuelhousesj.org
- **\$3750 to Presbyterian General Mission** - The third of our four quarterly pledged donations from Stone. Given without restrictions, these allow for the Church's timely response when and where it is needed most to eradicate systemic poverty, dismantle structural racism and foster congregational vitality.

Mid-point of Summer – This Sunday marks the mid-point of the summer schedule. Things have slowed a bit, people are traveling, and it might be easy to stay home on the hot days rather than come to worship; so congratulate yourself if you made it to church today! We have 6 weeks until our fall **Kick-off Sunday, Sept 8th**! The chancel choir will return, church school returns, as well as Adult

Ed. Until then, enjoy the slower pace, the warm air, the wonderful music selections from our talented members and friends; and the fantastic sermons!

July 28 – August 4, 2024

Sunday (7/28)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion –
 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
 12:30 - 4pm Swim at the Wheatley's
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Rehearsal - SA

Monday (7/29)

Tuesday (7/30)

Wednesday (7/31)

Thursday (8/1)

10 - 11am Emerald Circle - Zoom

Friday (8/2)

10am - 12pm Caregivers' Support -

Saturday (8/3)

9am - 3pm Elder Deacon Training - SH/SA

Next Sunday (8/4)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion 10:30 -
 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
 1 - 3pm Multi-Church Youth Group
 Board Games - SH/K
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Rehearsal - SA



The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
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)		
<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
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)		
<u>Class of 2025</u>		<u>Class of 2026</u>
Derk Johnson Lizanne Oliver		Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith

Late JULY Birthdays - (26th) Amber Biscardi;
 (27th) Erin Blodgett; (29th) Suzanne Wolf.

Late JULY Anniversaries - Suzanne Wolf &
 Chris Nilson (7/27/1991); Ruth & David McCreath
 (7/29/1959)

AUGUST Birthdays - (2nd) Don D'Angelo & Alice
 Thorn; (3rd) Walter Roach; (5th) Bob Cole; (8th)
 Devon Brook; (9th) Andrew Clark, Shenshen
 Zhang; (10th) Hilleguus Faber; (11th) Beth
 Lococo; (12th) James Lathrop; (15th) Jenny
 Pichon; (16th) Jordan Guenther; (17th) Matt
 Coleman; (18th) Christopher Smith; (21st) Mary-
 Ann Hudson; (22nd) Bruce Raby; (24th) Caitlin
 Tips; (26th) Allen Bartu & Angie Davidson; (28th)
 Jodi Leibowitz; (30th) Marion Lee.

AUGUST Anniversaries - Joyce & Lawrence
 Summers (8/2/1964); Lizanne & Fred Oliver
 (8/8/1970); Sandi & John Lococo (8/16/1981);
 Virginia & Art Holtz (8/20/1960); Diana & Ray Lim
 (8/23/1959); Wayne & Mercedes Martin
 (8/28/1960)

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Fred Harrell – Transitional Pastor
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Rev. Dr. David McCreath – Parish Associate
 rovinrev@gmail.com

Rev. Marge Palmer – Pastor Emerita

Nancy Kromm – Choir Director
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Barbara Vella – Organist
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Peggy Spool – Children's Choir Director

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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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