



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

**November 19, 2023 - 9:30 a.m.
25th 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.*

Prelude

“God Renew Us by Your Spirit”

Dale Wood (1934-2003)

“Tu Es Petrus”

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-68)

(You are Peter and upon this rock I will build my Church)

Barbara Vella, Organist

Welcome

The Rev. Irene Pak Lee, Associate Pastor

Choral Introit

“Prayer of Thanksgiving”

E. Kresmer

Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director

Call to Worship

Mary-Ann Hudson, Liturgist

God your people gather today

some are filled with sorrow and despair; and others are filled with joy and hope.

God make yourself known,

**give us courage to bring all that we are into this space heal our weary souls,
comfort our tired hearts and remind us that hope and healing come from you.**

Amen

***Opening Hymn #394** “There is a Balm in Gilead”

<Refrain>

*There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole,
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.*

1

*Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again.*

<Refrain>

2

*Don't ever feel discouraged,
For Jesus is your friend,
And if you lack for knowledge
He'll not refuse to lend.*

<Refrain>

3

*If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all."*

<Refrain>

Prayer of Confession

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

Generous God, for the times when we have confused abundance with reward or scarcity with faithfulness.

God, forgive us.

Empathetic God, for the times when we refused to love ourselves or assumed how others want to be loved.

God forgive us.

Compelling God, for the times when we have been too ashamed to offer words, actions, and resources of our faith to those around us.

God forgive us, renew us, and make us. AMEN.

Silence

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, **Amen***

***The Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Moment for PW Thank Offering

Claudia Hamm

We Listen To God's Word

The First Lesson

Exodus 36:1-7 (O.T., p. 82)

Bezalel and Oholiab and everyone skillful to whom the Lord has given skill and understanding to know how to do any work in the construction of the sanctuary shall work in accordance with all that the Lord has commanded.

Moses then called Bezalel and Oholiab and everyone skillful to whom the Lord had given skill, everyone whose heart was stirred to come to do the work; and they received from Moses all the freewill-offerings that the Israelites had brought for doing the work on the sanctuary. They still kept bringing him freewill-offerings every morning, so that all the artisans who were doing every sort of task on the sanctuary came, each from the task being performed, and said to Moses, 'The people are bringing much more than enough for doing the work that the Lord has commanded us to do.' So Moses gave command, and word was proclaimed throughout the

camp: 'No man or woman is to make anything else as an offering for the sanctuary.' So the people were restrained from bringing; for what they had already brought was more than enough to do all the work.

Anthem

"Now Thank We All Our God" (Hymn #555)

Children's Sermon

*Amber Biscardi, Church School Administrator
(Children dismissed to church school)*

New Testament Lessons

Matthew 22:34-40 (N.T., p. 25)

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?' He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'

Matthew 28:16-20 (N.T., p. 34)

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.'

Sermon

"A Time To Breathe: Who Will We Be And Become?"

The Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow

We Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

Offertory

"Praise and Glad Thanksgiving"

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

***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

"This is My Song"

#340 *Glory to God hymnal*

1

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

2

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So, hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.*

3

*This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms;
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations
myself I give thee; let thy will be done*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Toccata on Old 100th

Mark Thewes (b. 1954)

*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...

ASL ~ Hannah Davis

Deacon Greeter ~ Kathleen Oliver

Ushers ~ Bill & Rhonda Lakatos

Floral ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

Sound ~ Steve Nelson

Zoom ~ Andrew Clark

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

Pastors' day off: Mondays

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

*if you're interested, please contact
irene_pak@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 November, the **StoneWorks 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. 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.

Children's Church School Today – Children attend worship with their parents, and go to Church School after the Children's Sermon. Also, there are some children's activity boxes in the Narthex to use in the Sanctuary prior to the children's sermon.

The Retable Floral Arrangement is placed in honor of all the November birthdays. Happy Birthday to all our fabulous fall people!

Thank Offering of Presbyterian Women – The Session has approved the congregation's participation in the *Thank Offering* of Presbyterian Women. This offering, **taken today**, is part of Presbyterian Women's national program and supports programs that relieve pain, provide clean water, alleviate homelessness, and provide educational opportunities that lift up the lives of women and children throughout the world. An offering envelope is provided in the bulletin, make checks payable to *PW Stone Church*. Thank you for your support.

Adult Ed (11am SA) – *Moving From The Book Of Order To Calling A Pastor*. Our Clerk of Session, Deborah Crim, will lead us in looking at the two documents we use when we search for a pastor. There is a process we are asked to follow, based on our "Constitution," *The Book of Order*. Walk through the process to discern where Stone Church is going, including why and how. As always, childcare in the Nursery is available during Adult Ed.

Men's Book Group meets **tomorrow, Mon, Nov 20th** (7 pm) at David McCreath's, 15860 Poppy Ln #1, LG, 95030, to discuss "Look For Me There" by Luke Russert. All men are welcome; even if you haven't read it, come anyway, for the conversation, wine & snacks.

Youth Group Movie Night at Pastor Irene's home **next Sun, Nov 26th** (5-7PM) at 907 Burman Drive, SJ, 95111. Dinner provided! Bring a favorite snack to share if you'd like. All youth 6th-12th grade, you're your friends, are welcome! RSVP to Pastor Irene (irene_pak@stonechurch.org).

Chrismon Tree – **Tue, Nov 28th** (5:30-8pm) our Chrismon tree will be set up, and the Sanctuary will be decorated for Advent. If you would like to help, please contact Jeremy Easton (jeremyeastonmft@gmail.com). We need many strong bodies to hoist the tree, so please help if you are able. Not all the jobs involve strength, so come for a fun gathering that includes dinner! It is a nice feeling to sit in church on a Sunday during Advent and know that you had a part in making the sanctuary a beautiful place for all to worship!

Communion During Advent – Throughout Advent we will serve Communion each Sunday. The Worship committee is looking to expand their volunteer list for communion set-up. This is a great opportunity to be part of the worship experience, but behind the scenes. Volunteers will help an experienced person with the before-worship setup, involving organizing the communion table with the cloths, bread, wine, and juice; and the after-worship cleaning of service items, and putting things away. You would need to arrive by 8:30 am and stay for a bit after worship for the clean-up. Use the link to see if there is a Sunday on which you can help (https://bit.ly/StoneChurch_Communion).

Parents Day Out – Save the Date ~ **Sat, Dec 2nd** (10am-2pm). **Sign-up** in the Social Hall after worship, and let the Deacons watch your kids (pre-school to 5th grade) so you can shop, exercise, run errands, or do nothing. Lunch, activities & crafts provided. Middle school and high school kids can come as helpers.

Activity Input - The Membership & Communications Committee (M&C) asks the congregation for input on the activities we offer during the year. Last Friday's email had the survey link, or pick up a hard copy in the church office, then complete it by **Mon, Dec 4th** to let us know which activities are most meaningful & enjoyable to you.

In-Kind Donation Receipts are due to the office the 1st week of December. In-kind donations are goods or items, rather than money (or cash) that are given to the church, food or supplies to be used for a church event (workdays, retreats, youth group, etc). To have donations appear on your year-end giving tax statement, please provide the Office Manager (office_manager@stonechurch.org) your name, an itemized summary, receipts, and name of program or event supported.

Ushers are needed for multiple services on **Dec 24th and on into January**. If you've never been an usher, no problem, training is on the job and most often you'd work with an experienced person. The basic job is handing out bulletins, lighting candles, taking attendance count, and passing the offering plates. Sign-up, <https://bit.ly/StoneChurchUsher>.

Pledge for 2024 – Pledges are accepted throughout the year, but if you intend to pledge for 2024 and haven't yet, please complete a pledge form ASAP (found in the pews, the Narthex, and the office), or email (office_manager@stonechurch.org) and give your pledge amount; or pledge [online](#). The BRC (Budget Review Committee) meets this month, and your pledge aids them in building next year's budget.

November 19 – 26, 2023

Sunday (11/19)

8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10 - 10:30am Church School - Fireside Room
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
11am - 12pm Adult Ed - SA
2 - 3:30pm Kromm Student Recital - SH/SA
5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SA
6 - 6:30pm Annual Interfaith Service -

Temple Emanu-El 1010 University Ave

Monday (11/20)

9 - 11am OMG - Conf. Room
2:30pm PW Page Turners Book Group
4 - 7:30pm Vivace - SH
6 - 7:30pm Vivace - SA
7pm Men's Book Group - McCreath's

Tuesday (11/21)

10am - noon Marta Mtg - Conf. Room
7 - 8:30pm Session - SH

Wednesday (11/22)

7:30 - 9pm Choir Rehearsal - SH

Thursday (11/23) Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed

Friday (11/24) Native American Heritage Day - Office Closed

10am - 12pm Caregivers' Support - Conf. Rm

Saturday (11/25)

10am - 12pm Resounding Achord - SA
1 - 3pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

Next Sunday (11/26)

8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10 - 10:30am Church School - Fireside Room
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SA
5 - 7pm Youth Group Movie Night - SH

NOVEMBER Birthdays - (2nd) Don Skipwith, Julie Ludwig; (8th) Ida Raby; (9th) Marsha Wadley; (10th) Mike Donald; (12th) Charlotte Dickson; (13th) Jeanette Rapp, Dick Kistler; (15th) Doug Williams; (16th) Cathy Marlatt; (18th) Aby Ryan, Carole Brandt; (19th) Sandi Lococo; (23rd) Louis Burgyan; (30th) Donna Erickson

ELECTED LEADERS

<u>The Elders of the Session</u>		
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 Donna Erickson Mel Goertz Chris Lee Jeff Mattan	Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg
<u>The Board of Deacons</u>		
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
<u>Nominating Committee</u>		
Chair ~ Ruth McCreath (rdmccreath@aol.com)		
Class of 2024	Class of 2025	
Janice Goertz Claudia Hamm Steve Nelson	Derk Johnson Don Skipwith	

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

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 - 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