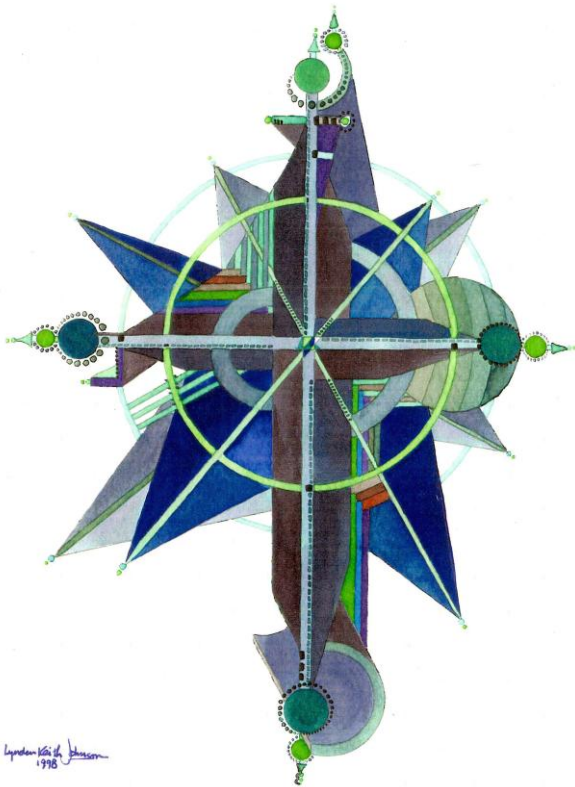


**Stone Church of Willow Glen
Presbyterian Church (USA)
San José, California**

**April 27, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.
2nd Sunday of Easter**



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

“Variations on ‘O Filii et Filiae’”

*Naji Hakim (b. 1955)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell

***Call to Worship**

Matt Marcotte, Liturgist

We come with questions, with heartache, with hope.

We come as we are, seeking what is true and good.

On the road to Emmaus, Jesus showed up—unexpected, unrecognized, yet fully present.

Today, Christ meets us in our ordinary lives, in our searching, in our hunger for justice.

When the bread is broken, when the stranger becomes friend—

We remember: Love is alive. Liberation is near.

Let us worship the God who walks with us still.

***Opening Hymn #238 “Thine Is the Glory”**

1

*Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o’er death hast
won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the
stone away. Kept the folded grave clothes
where the body lay.*

2

*Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and
gloom. Let the church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing. For the Lord now
liveth; death hath lost its sting.*

3

*No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince
of life! Life is nought without Thee; Aid us
in our strife. Make us more than
conquerors through thy deathless love.
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home
above.*

(final refrain)

*Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou O’er death hast
won.*

***Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession

On the road of life, we often miss the presence of God among us. We turn inward, we rush past the holy, we forget that love walks with us. Let us pause, breathe deeply, and confess all that weighs on our hearts.

Prayer of Confession

Risen Christ, we confess that we do not always see you— in the stranger, in the hurting, in our own reflection. We cling to what we know, even when your Spirit calls us to something new. We walk with heavy hearts, forgetting that resurrection is already here. Open our eyes. Warm our hearts. Give us courage to follow you into love, into justice, into new life. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news: Even when our eyes are closed, God meets us on the road. Even when our hearts are slow to believe, grace finds us still. You are known, you are loved, you are forgiven. Walk in that freedom.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

***The Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Member Welcome)

Larry Lermo

Rev. Fred Harrell

Presenting New Members

On behalf of the Session, I present Larry Lermo, who has been received into membership by reaffirmation of faith.

Responsive Litany for Reception of New Members

The church is a family of people with a variety of gifts, united by the Spirit revealed in Jesus of Nazareth. By this Spirit, we are joined in caring, forgiving, helping and loving one another.

Thanks be to God.

The church is the people of God, with a diversity of needs, ideas and visions, inspired by the Spirit burning through the words and deeds of Jesus, as told in the Scripture. By this Spirit, we are opened to the world and all people as our siblings in faith.

Thanks be to God.

The Spirit of Christ restores and redeems creation, bringing order out of chaos, unity in the midst of disunity, life in the midst of death.

Thanks be to God.

Question to New Member

Will you be a faithful member of this congregation and share in its worship and ministry? And will you through your fellowship, study and service, seek to fulfill your calling as a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Question to the Congregation

Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Larry in word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and be a faithful member of Christ's church?

We do!

Welcome Prayer

Will the congregation please join in the words of welcome:

Larry, we welcome you into this family of God's community. We celebrate your joining us. We love you and need you, for your faith completes our joy. Be the church with us, gathered for study and worship, scattered for living service to others. We are the body of Christ together. Thanks be to God!

We Listen to God's Word

The First Lesson

Psalm 116: 1-7 (O.T., p. 564)

I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications. Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish. Then I called on the name of the Lord, "O Lord, I pray, save my life!"

Gracious is the Lord and righteous; our God is merciful. The Lord protects the simple; when I was brought low, he saved me. Return, O my soul, to your rest, for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

Organ Anthem

"This Joyful Eastertide"

Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

The Second Lesson

Luke 24:13-35 (N.T., p. 90)

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Sermon

"Hearts on Fire, Eyes Wide Open"

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

"I Danced in the Morning"

J. Wayne Kerr

***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**

Bless these offerings— our money, our time, our lives— that they may open eyes, mend hearts, and bear witness to your risen love in a world still aching for resurrection. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion server(s) ~Kate Wheatley

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

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest!

...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

“Stay with Us”

**Stay with us, O Lord Jesus Christ,
night will soon fall.**

**Then stay with us, O Lord Jesus Christ,
light in our darkness**

“Come and Fill”

Come and fill our hearts with your peace.

You alone, O Lord, are holy.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God, you have met us on the road, you have fed us at the table, and you have opened our eyes again.

Send us out now— with hearts full of resurrection hope, with courage to share good news, and with compassion for every traveler we meet.

In the name of the Risen One, Amen.

We Go Out in God’s Name

***Closing Hymn #525** *“Let Us Break Bread Together”*

1
*Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the victory Thou o’er death hast won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away. Kept the folded grave clothes where the body lay.*

2
*Lo! Jesus meets us, Risen from the tomb;
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing. For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting.*

3
No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is nought without Thee; Aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors through thy deathless love. Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.

(final refrain)
*Thine is the glory, Risen conquering Son;
endless is the victory Thou O’er death hast won.*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

“Postlude on ‘Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!’”

Healey Willan (1880-1968)

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

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

ASL Interpreter – Hannah Sullivan

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 (officemanager@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 March, **Presbyterian Women (PW)** and friends are serving coffee & refreshments after worship.

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.

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.

Children's Church School Today – Children meet in Fireside Room (stone building on the other side of the Social Hall). Children will come to the sanctuary to participate in communion. If your child(ren) is/are staying with you during worship, there are some activity boxes (in the Narthex – entry way) for children to use during the service.

Today the Unity Candle is at Comunidad Latino Americana (Revs Stella & Mike Matusiewicz) that meets at Westminster Pres. Each week the unity candle travels to a different church in the San Jose Presbytery; please pray for all God's people in this congregation.

The Narthex Floral Arrangement is in remembrance of Jim Lathrop (1939-2025) from his loving family.

The Retable Flowers are given by Susan Bedolla and Claudia Hamm in memory of Mary Alice Collins, who would have celebrated her 86th birthday on April 29th. Thank you, Mary Alice, for leading us on a profound spiritual journey that will impact us, and many others, always.

"New" Member – Larry Lermo originally joined Stone Church in 1982, but over the years he lost touch. Fortunately, he is back and joining Stone again, through Reaffirmation of Faith. Please give him a big welcome!

Also, he and Kate Wheatley have been the driving forces, and done the back breaking work, on landscaping the Lincoln House front yard. Three cheers to them for their beautiful work!

Today, Rapid Response Network Training in the Social Hall (2-3:30pm). The Santa Clara Rapid Response Network has a hotline where people can call for support when they face immediate ICE action in our community. Responders get training to go as groups of Legal Observers at potential ICE actions, recording actions to safely protect the rights of our undocumented neighbors. Join PACT for this training this afternoon.

Two Important Community Walking Opportunities!

Crop Walk - Sun, May 18th, Stone Church will participate in the South Bay 2025 CROP Hunger Walk! This nationwide movement sponsored by Church World Service raises funds to end hunger and poverty in the US and around the world. **Sign-ups for walkers and donations will begin next Sun, May 4th**, in the Social Hall.

On the day of the walk, May 18th (1pm) join others at Almaden Hills United Methodist Church to start the walk around Almaden Lake. Afterwards, enjoy root beer floats at the AHUM Church!

For more info, contact Emily Meacham (emilymm@pacbell.net) or Lizanne Oliver (lizanneoli@aol.com) or visit the CROP Walk web site (<https://www.cnumc.org/newsdetails/crop-walk-18996774>)



Willow Glen 5K (walk/run)- **Sat, May 10th** Stone Church will be a Sponsor for this event [Willow Glen 5K](#).



- [Register](#) to **walk**, run, or stroll the event, and consider wearing your Stone Church t-shirt! (<https://wg5k.org/registration>)
- **Join the Team!** When registering, select “Stone Church of Willow Glen” as your team!
- If you live along the [racecourse route](#), consider **hosting a cheer section** in your front yard, with other Stone Church members! (<https://wg5k.org/courses/official-wg5k-course>)
- **Need a Stone Church T-Shirt** to wear on race day? Shirts will be available (free) in the Social Hall after worship, shirts are first-come, first-serve basis through May 4th.

If you are worried about the length of the walk – 3.1 miles, never fear, most of our contingent will be walking, and you can “poop-out” along the way if needed. It will be a fun walk, out in our community, showing our Stone Church spirit!

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, Apr 28th**, at 8:15 a.m., meeting in the church office. Signs and brochures are provided. Questions? Contact Claudia Hamm (jnchamm@gmail.com).

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, and new underwear for men, women and children; and gently used or new sleeping bags.

Our Next Monthly Taizé Service is **Tue, May 6th**

(1st Tuesday of the month). Taizé Prayer is evening prayer for all Christian faiths. It’s a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ’s presence around and within us. Mantra songs (like “Jesus, Remember Me”), prayerful silence, and short readings guide the focus of the prayer in a candle-lit environment. 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.

Kathleen O'Brien's family is having her memorial service at Center for Spiritual Enlightenment (1146 University Ave., SJ), **Sat, May 17th** (1pm).

PW’s Hudspeth Trust Scholarships are available for undergraduate college bound students. For an application, email officemanager@stonechurch.org. If you have questions, please contact Nanci Eksterowicz (nancigrace@comcast.net, 408.887.2965). **The dead-line for accepting applications is**

Tue, July 1st. US mail applications to: PW Stone Church Scholarships, 1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose 95125, post-marked (or emailed to nancigrace@comcast.net) by July 1st.

Receive Church Updates! - To receive the weekly Friday email and other office updates, please email OfficeManger@StoneChurch.org and ask to be added to our email list.

Adult Ed – Below is a glimpse of some of the remaining Adult Ed classes planned before the summer hiatus:

- Amber Biscardi will lead a Senior exercise class in the Fireside Room
- Alice Thorn will discuss the Old Testament.
- Brainstorming AE topic ideas for the Fall 2025 & Spring 2026.
- And perhaps one more class on an unnamed topic.

April 27 – May 4, 2025

Sunday (4/27)

8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
 9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion
 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
 2 - 3:30pm Rapid Response Network
 Training - SA
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SH
 5 - 7pm Youth Group - SH

Monday (4/28) 5/10

Fred - Continuing Ed etc thru

8:15 – 9:15am Stand Against Trafficking –
 Lincoln Ave
 4 - 7:30pm Vivace - SH
 6 - 7:30pm Vivace - SA

Tuesday (4/29)

Wednesday (4/30)

4:30 - 6:15pm Vivace - SH
 7:30 - 9pm Choir Practice - SH

Thursday (5/1)

5 - 8pm Vivace - SH
 7 - 9pm MSC2 - Conf.Room

Friday (5/2)

Jennifer off

Saturday (5/3)

Next Sunday (5/4)

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

Late APRIL Birthdays - (27th) Susan Bedolla. & Heather Henry; (28th) Sabine Nelson; (29th) Jerry Keifer; (30th) Raven Bateman, Jim Hagan & Rod Thorn.

MAY Birthdays - (2nd) Nanci Eksterowicz, Kelsey McDaid; Katie Sandoval-Clark, Marshall Sandoval-Clark; (4th) Paul Kanter; (6th) Emily Meacham; (7th) Emma Brand, Chris Nilson; (8th) Lyn Johnson; (9th) Barbara Krause; (10th) Emiko Easton (11th) Glenda Bowman, Ann Pierce; (13th) Julia Kraemer; (14th) Jason Leibowitz; (15th) Kerry House-Nelson; (16th) Lionel Predium; (18th) Derk Johnson, Ruth McCreath & Josh Stevens; (19th) Maureen Chandler; (21st) Jocelyn De Gance, Virginia Thibeaux & Rosaleen Zisch; (22nd) Leta Leggett & Kaiyo Easton; (26th) Peggy Spool; (28th) Irene Pak Lee; (30th) Catherine Othick; (31st) Mike Breuleux

MAY Anniversaries - Jennifer Scott-Brand and Jeff Brand (5/23/92); Deborah Crim and Walter Hudson (5/28/72); Rhonda and Bill Lakatos (5/29/71)

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Jeremy Easton 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 Susan Bedolla		Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith

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Rev. Dr. David McCreath – Parish Associate

rovinrev@gmail.com

Rev. Marge Palmer – Pastor Emerita

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Brand

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Custodians – Victor & Sonia Perez

Memorial Coordinator – Hilleguus Faber

Wedding Coordinator – Lizanne Oliver

Parish Nurse – Mary Johnson

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IT@stonechurch.org – Michael Wheatley

MMM@stonechurch.org – Men’s Mission & Ministry

PrayerChain@stonechurch.org – Mary-Ann Hudson

PW@stonechurch.org – Sheri Cunningham

StephenMinistry@stonechurch.org – Michele Smith

StoneCares@stonechurch.org

SocialMedia@stonechurch.org

Donate to Stone Church



Zelle (No Fees)

OfficeManager@StoneChurch.org



PayPal (Usual Fees)

Stone Church of Willow Glen