



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

**May 5, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.
6th 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

“Fireworks Music”

*G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell, Transitional Pastor

Introit

“Let My Heart and Soul Praise the Lord”

G.F. Handel (1685-1759); Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director

Call to Worship

Amaya Easton, Liturgist

*Let our praise for the God of Life resound throughout the Great
Congregation.*

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

And justice and peace will surely embrace all generations.

**Though we fall, we will rise again, for the Gentle One takes hold
of our hands.**

Our lives and our love proclaim God's beauty.

Let us worship God.

Yes! Alleluia! Amen!

***Opening Hymn #376** “Love Divine, All Love Excelling”

1
Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heaven to earth come down,
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling,
All Thy faithful mercies crown!
Jesus, Thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love Thou art;
Visit us with Thy salvation,
Enter every trembling heart.

2
Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit
Into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit,
Let us find that second rest;
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.

3
Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing,
Glory in Thy perfect love.

4
Finish, then, Thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see Thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in Thee;
Changed from glory into glory,
Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before Thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Call to Confession

Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
(Proverbs 3:5-6)

Prayer of Confession

God of life and love, we come before you in awe, sometimes wondering if we are included in receiving your blessing and your love. When we rest in the truth that we are, we give thanks. When we miss it, open our hearts once more and allow us to hear your voice of belonging and peace. Amen

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. (John 11:25-26)

This is the good news.

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

Psalm 97: 1-6 (O.T., p. 551)

The Lord is king! Let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad! Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne. Fire goes before him, and consumes his adversaries on every side. His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles. The mountains melt like wax before the Lord, before the Lord of all the earth.

The heavens proclaim his righteousness; and all the peoples behold his glory.

Anthem*“God Has Work for Us to Do”*

Mark Miller

The Second Lesson*Acts 16: 16-34 (N.T., p. 136)*

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, ‘These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation.’ She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, ‘I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.’ And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market-place before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, ‘These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe.’ The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone’s chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, ‘Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.’ The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, ‘Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ They answered, ‘Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.’ They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

Sermon*“The Democracy of the Holy Spirit”*

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 Know That My Redeemer Liveth” from Messiah**G.F. Handel; Jessica Jacoby, soprano****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**

Heavenly Father, accept the offerings we seek to make of ourselves and our money; and help us to continually work and pray to build a world of peace, joy and freedom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

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

Communion Music *"Come Unto Him"*

Handel's Messiah
Jessica Jacoby, soprano

Prayer after Communion

Gracious God we give you thanks for satisfying our hungry hearts with this meal shared in the Spirit with Jesus Christ.

We go from here strengthened and refreshed, to speak your love and reveal your presence in the world.

We Go Out in God's Name

*Closing Hymn #142

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

1
*All hail the power of Jesus' Name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!*

2
*Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all!*

3
*Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!*

4
*O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all!*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Since by Man Came Death" from Messiah
G. F. Handel (1685-1759); Stone Church Chancel Choir, Nancy Kromm, Director

"Behold I Tell You a Mystery"

"The Trumpet Shall Sound" from Messiah G. F. Handel (1685-1759)
Nathan Tu, baritone; Leroy Kromm, piano

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

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

Thank You...

ASL ~ **Sound** ~ Brissa Lake
Deacon Greeters ~ Chris Nilson **Zoom** ~ The Eastons
Ushers ~ Kate Wheatley & Marta Espinal
Floral ~ Diane Van Den Bosch
Communion set-up: Jodi, Sheri, Derk & Mary

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 May, **the Stewardship 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. 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.

Sermon Theme Today – God is for all of us; Paul and Silas break out of jail.

Flowers are in memory of Diana SooHoo Lim, whose memorial was held yesterday.

Children's Church School – Today children meet Amber on the patio and then go into the Fireside Room (stone building on the other side of the Social Hall). Children will participate in communion and return to Church School afterwards.

Next week (5/12, Mother's Day) the children will sing in worship. The remaining Church School dates are May 19th and June 2nd; with Vacation Church School June 17 – 21. Church School will return in September.

Adult Ed (11am SA) – Join Rev. Fred Harrell for "Who is Fred Harrell Anyway?" Hear his story from Florida to California, Campus Ministry to PC(USA) Presbyterian!

Visit our Libraries! - **Children's/YA Library** is reached through the church school rooms. **Adult Library**, in the Lincoln House (Office), is open during coffee hour *whenever a sign is posted in the Social Hall near the back door*. Find some new & exciting books!

Takeout Dinner – This coming **Sat, May 11th**, the Men's Mission & Ministry (MMM) is holding a Takeout Dinner fundraiser. The dinner (serves 4) consists of *Ribble's famous smoked BBQ short ribs, baked potatoes, coleslaw by Wong, desert by Van Den Bosch and Stone anniversary wine*. This bargain meal's requested donation is \$100, including delivery! ***Reservations are accepted thru May 7th (6pm)***. Text orders to Bill Ribble (408-202-3539). The dinners sell out, so order soon! Funds raised to be used for MMM Stone activities and mission partners.

Taize Service is **this coming Tue, May 7th** (1st Tuesday of the month). 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.

Dementia Caregiver Support Group has been meeting twice a month (2nd and 4th Fridays at 10am), 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 in attending, please contact in person, or email to, Marsha Wadley (marshawadley@hotmail.com), or Bill Ribble, (bill@ribble.net).

Pentecost May 19th – We're inviting everyone to wear red, or other flame colors, to worship on Pentecost Sun-day as we celebrate the birthday of the church. We will also collect the Pentecost offering that day – see insert.

Cool Jazz, Heart-Warming Hymns – Our treasurer, Ruthanne Martinez, invites all to a free concert at Sara-toga Federated Church, **Sun, May 19th** (7 pm)! It'll be an evening of gospel, jazz, and hymns, presented by SFC musicians and friends; reception following.

The Stone Church Mission Study Committee has compiled the results of the 2024 Congregational Survey in which many of you participated. A PDF version of the 116-page document was in the Friday email.

The committee thanks the congregation for their participation. More than 47% of the 266 surveys sent out were returned, which church survey experts say is excellent, especially since it was long at 71 questions, and required about 30 minutes to complete, according to Survey Monkey, our online tool. The survey was based on 100+ questions from our congregation as well as others gleaned from a half-dozen other California Presbyterian churches and presbyteries. The survey provides important info, to be combined with other research and congregational outreach, which will be reflected in Stone Church's Mission Study Report, expected to be completed this summer.

Rev Fred Harrell's Schedule - When Fred was offered the job as our Transitional Pastor, he wanted to start in July, as he had a calendar full of pre-planned events. We, of course, wanted him to start sooner, and we are glad that he did! However, this has resulted in a unique schedule for the months of May and June.

- May 6-10 - He will be in Florida, working remotely.
- May 27 - June 24 - Vacationing and not working.

During his time away in June, he has scheduled a slew of fantastic guest pastors for those Sundays. We will be fine, since we are all quite capable, so we wish him well on his adventures, and hope he comes back with some great sermon material!

Vacation Church School is **June 17th – 21st** (8:45am – Noon). Mark your calendars for this fun week of “Knights of the North Castle!” Email Amber to register (amber_biscardi@stonechurch.org) and have your ex-tended family, friends, and neighbors sign up, too!

Children’s Community Garden - As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering a sense of community and stewardship, the children have been working hard on establishing the Children’s Community Garden. We are reaching out to our congregation for support in the form of plant donations, planter boxes (link below), potting soil, and stepping-stones. Our vision for this garden is to create a nurturing environment where children can learn about sustainable gardening practices while fostering a deeper connection to nature. Your donations will not only enhance the beauty and diversity of our garden (and backyard!), but will also provide valuable learning oppor-tunities for the children in our congregation.

If you would like to contribute any of the above items, please bring them to church and leave them in the backyard. You can also contact Amber (408-835-5376) (amber_biscardi@stonechurch.org), and she will arrange for pick up.

https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0CLNKP229/ref=twister_B0CY5ZJD8M?_encoding=UTF8&th=1

May 5 – 12, 2024

<p>Sunday (5/5) 8:30 - 9am 9:30 - 10:30am 9:30 - 10:30am 10:30 - 11am 5 - 7pm</p> <p>Monday (5/6) 9:30 - 11:30am 4 - 7:30pm 6 - 7:30pm</p> <p>Tuesday (5/7) 5:30 - 6:30pm 6:30 - 7:30pm 7 - 9pm 7:30pm</p> <p>Wednesday (5/8) 4:30 - 6:30pm 7:30 - 9pm</p>	<p>Cinco de Mayo Choir Practice - SA Sunday School - Fireside Room Worship & Communion - Coffee Fellowship - SH Youth Group - SH/K</p> <p>OMG - Conf.Room Vivace - SH Vivace - SA</p> <p>Worship Mtg - Zoom Taizé Service - SA M&C - Zoom B&G, CE, StoneWorks - Zoom</p> <p>Vivace - SH Choir Rehearsal - SH</p>	<p>Thursday (5/9) 9:30am - 12pm 5 - 6:30pm 6:30 - 8pm</p> <p>Friday (5/10) 10 - 11am 11am - 2pm 1:30 - 4pm</p> <p>Saturday (5/11)</p> <p>Next Sunday (5/12)</p>	<p>PWCT - Conf.Room Vivace - SA Vivace - SH</p> <p>Caregivers' Support - Conf.Room MMM Fundraiser Prep - K Liturgical Arts - Room 1 MMM - Take Out Dinner Delivery</p> <p>Mother’s Day Choir Practice - SA Worship - SA & Zoom Sunday School - Fireside Room Anointing & Prayer - SA Coffee Fellowship - SH</p>
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MAY Birthdays - (2nd) Nanci Eksterowicz, Kelsey McDaid; (3rd) 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; (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 DeGance, Joan Helms, Virginia Thibeaux & Rosaleen Zisch; (22nd) Leta Leggitt & Kaiyo Easton; (26th) Peggy Spool; (28th) Irene Pak Lee; (30th) Catherine Othick.

May Anniversaries - Jennifer Scott-Brand and Jeff Brand (5/23/1992); Deborah Crim & Walter Hudson (5/28/1972); Rhonda & Bill Lakatos (5/29/1971)

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

Presbyterian Women - Jan Keifer - keiferjj@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry Coordinator - Michele Smith
michelesmith801@comcast.net

StoneCares - Stonecares@stonechurch.org

Web Master – Jody Meacham - jtmjr@pacbell.net

The Elders of the Session		
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 Mel Goertz Jeff Mattan	Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg
The Board of Deacons		
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	Neil Coleman Marta Espinal Kerry House-Nelson Karen Wessels
Nominating Committee		
Chair ~ Ruth McCreath (rdmccreath@aol.com)		
Class of 2024	Class of 2025	
Janice Goertz Claudia Hamm Steve Nelson	Derk Johnson Don Skipwith Lizanne Oliver	

STAFF DIRECTORY

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Rev. Dr. David McCreath - Parish Associate
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The 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

Amber Biscardi – Interim Church School
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Jennifer Scott-Brand - Office & Facility Manager