



***Stone Church of Willow Glen - Presbyterian Church
(USA)***

San José, California

***July 20, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time***

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

“Trumpet Tune from Solemn March from Joshua Act II” HWV64

*George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell

***Call to Worship**

Emily Meacham, Liturgist

Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good!

God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Give thanks to the One who brings freedom and feeds us with grace.

God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Come, people of God—let us remember, rejoice, and return to the Love that will not let us go.

We come to worship the God of steadfast love!

***Opening Hymn #15** “All Creatures of our God and King”

1

*All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
alleluia, alleluia alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!*

2

*Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O sing ye, alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of evening, find a voice,
alleluia, alleluia alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!*

3

*Thou flowing water, pure and clear,
make music for thy Lord to hear,
alleluia, alleluia!
Thou fire so masterful and bright,
that givest man both warmth and light,
alleluia, alleluia alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!*

4

*Thou fertile earth, that day by day
unfoldest blessings on your way,
O sing ye! Alleluia
The flowers and fruits that in the grow,
Let them God's glory also show!
alleluia, alleluia alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia!*

***Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession

Before we offer anything else, let us offer our honesty. God's love is not earned by perfection, but meets us in truth. Let us confess the ways we have turned from love, and return to the One whose mercy endures forever.

Prayer of Confession

God of steadfast love, we confess that we forget your faithfulness. We let fear guide our actions and pride harden our hearts. We chase what cannot satisfy, and cling to things that cannot save. You have been faithful in every generation, but we resist your grace. Forgive us, free us, and restore in us the joy of being your beloved. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: The same God who parted the sea and fed the hungry still remembers you. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and made new.

God's steadfast love endures forever. Thanks be to God!

***The Passing of the Peace**

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

Hymn #75

"We Give Thanks Unto You" (vv 1, 2, 7, 8)

1
*We give thanks unto you, O god of might,
For your love is never ending.
We give thanks unto you the God of gods,
For your love is never ending.*

2
*In your wisdom and love you shaped the skies
For your love is never ending.
You spread out the earth u on the sea
For your love is never ending.*

7
*You remember your promise age to age,
For your love is never ending.
You show mercy on those of low degree,
For your love is never ending.*

8
*You give food and life to all living things, For
your love is never ending.
We give thanks unto you, the God of all,
For your love is never ending.*

Triennium Delegation Commissioning

Rev. Dr. Neal Presa & Rev. Fred Harrell

It is almost too good to be true, after six years the church is about to welcome many of its young people to join in fellowship, worship, and community at the 2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium in Louisville, Kentucky. Is this really happening?!

It is as if we were dreaming.

Together we will travel, learn, make new friends, and praise God in ways that some of us have never experienced.

It is as if we were dreaming.

For over two years, people whom we have never met have been praying for us, planning and working for us; seeking the guidance of God's Spirit to create an event that will transform our lives.

It is as if we were dreaming.

And here at home, our congregations have found ways to organize and support us in our desire to attend this amazing event. Truly the whole community of faith has rallied to make this happen.

It is as if we were dreaming.

On this day as we prepare for this new adventure, we seek the prayers of this gathered community knowing that they represent so many unseen people of faith who have been praying for us all along. With gratitude we acknowledge their support. With open hearts we commit ourselves to growing in faith as we encounter the love of God in exciting new ways.

It is as if we were dreaming.

We commission these young people and their adult advisors - seeking God's protection as they travel, God's grace when patience wears thin, God's overflowing joy as they become community with the great, big family of God's people, and God's love as they deepen their faith and learn in new ways how to be followers of Jesus Christ.

It is not a dream. It is real. We commit ourselves to the work of God's Spirit, in Jesus' name. Amen.

We Listen to God's Word

The First Lesson

1 John 4: 7-12 (N.T., p. 241)

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 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 this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us, and his love is perfected in us.

Anthem

"Come Holy Ghost"

Bruce Benedict & Ray Mills
Nathan Smith, clarinet

The Second Lesson

Psalms 136: 1-9, 26 (O.T., p. 576)

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. O give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. O give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever;

who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever; who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever; who spread out the earth on the waters, for his steadfast love endures forever; who made the great lights, for his steadfast love endures forever;

the sun to rule over the day, for his steadfast love endures forever; the moon and stars to rule over the night, for his steadfast love endures forever;

Sermon

"The Love That Won't Let Go"

Rev. Fred Harrell

Prayers of the People and 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 Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

The God who gives food to all flesh, who remembers us in our lowest moments, calls us to participate in love that liberates and sustains. Let us offer our gifts—not out of obligation, but out of gratitude—to the One whose love will never let us go.

Offertory

"Reckless Love"

Bethel Music & Cory Asbury
Jason Jacobs, soloist

*After the first refrain is sung, the congregation is invited
to sing on the remaining refrains:*

**Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God
Oh, it chases me down, fights 'til I'm found, leaves the 99
And I couldn't earn it, and I don't deserve it, still,
You give Yourself away
Oh, the overwhelming, never-ending, reckless love of God**

***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**

Loving God, every good thing we have is a sign of your enduring love. Bless these gifts and use them to heal, to feed, to set free, and to proclaim your mercy. Make us generous in spirit and courageous in love, that we may reflect your goodness in all we do. In Christ's name, Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

***Closing Hymn #31 "Let Us With a Gladsome Mind"**

1

*Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.*

3

*All things living God does feed;
with full measure, meets their need:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.*

2

*God, with all-commanding might,
filled the new-made world with light:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.*

4

*Let us with a gladsome mind
praise the Lord who is so kind:
for God's mercies shall endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Oh, Love, How Deep"

Michael Helman

Feel free to depart quietly. Please be mindful of those enjoying the postlude.

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

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

Many of this summer's bulletin covers will feature pieces from Lyn Johnson's 'Numbers' series, which often references the number three—a symbol of the Trinity.

ASL Interpreter - Hannah Sullivan

Announcements



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The Stone Church of Willow Glen PC(USA)

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Office Hours M-F 9am - 1pm

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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 July, **Choir** and friends
are serving coffee & refreshments after worship.

Announcements

Welcome Guests and Visitors! We hope you feel welcome 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 patio after worship. **Large Print Hymnals** and **Seat Cushions** are available on the back pew, by the door. **Nursery** - 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 aged 0-3.

Children are always welcome in worship! For their enjoyment, there are activity boxes & books in the Narthex (entry way) for them to use during worship. If you'd like to be notified of any upcoming children's events during the summer, email childrensministry@stonechurch.org & ask Amber to add you to her email list.

Today the (Roaming) SJ Presbytery Unity Candle is at [Covenant Pres-Palo Alto](#). (Rev. Dr. Jack Cabaness). Please pray for all God's people in this congregation.

The Retable Floral is in celebration of all our Stone Church July birthdays and anniversaries!

Triennium Send Off – Today we celebrate the youth & adult leaders, going off to the '25 PCUSA Triennium. We'll commission the delegation during worship, and end with cake during coffee hour. Safe travels to all. 2025

Triennium, July 28- 31, the Presbyterian Church (USA) will welcome thousands of its high school age youth and their adult youth workers to Louisville, Kentucky for four days of worship, recreation, bible study, outreach, and faith formation all around the theme of "As If We Were Dreaming".

Most programming and meals will be held at the Kentucky International Convention Center (KICC) with all participants housed at nearby Triennium hotels.

This year the majority of the San Jose Presbytery Delegation is from Stone Church. The full delegation consists of 12 people: three adults and nine youth:

Amaya Easton, Stone Church
Emiko Easton, Stone Church
Desmond Hurley, Stone Church
Gabriel Hurley, Stone Church

Joshua Judson, Stone Church
Isaac Miller, Stone Church
Kemal Munkem, Santa Theresa Presbyterian
Caleb Wong, Foothill Presbyterian
Noah White, Foothill Presbyterian

Stephanie Easton, Stone Church
Kathleen Oliver, Stone Church
Rev. Andy Wong, Foothill Presbyterian

What's new in the library? Look on the Stone Church web page under Church Life for reviews of some new books and alphabetized listings for our adult and children's libraries.

Summer Psalm Series - The Psalms are the ancient prayer book of God's people—raw, poetic, defiant, and tender. Across centuries, they have helped people express joy, grief, anger, trust, and awe. This summer we'll journey in worship through 9 powerful psalms that speak to our real lives, offering comfort, courage, honesty, and hope.

Willow Glen Cares Back to School Drive - Once again Stone Church will support 'Willow Glen Cares' Back-to-School Drive. **Next Sun, July 27th** we'll have collection boxes at church to drop off your donations. WGC's requested items: Spiral-bound notebooks, Composition notebooks; Packs of binder paper, Pencils, 1-inch binders, Highlighters. To make a financial donation directly to WGC, [use this link](#). Thank you for your continued support of students in need right here in our own neighborhood!

Peaceful Observers Needed for Sacred Heart's backpack giveaway **Tue Jul 29th & Thu Jul 31st**. It's a critical resource for families who can't afford school supplies. Many of these families are vulnerable to ICE. To ensure our neighbors are safe and supported, we need volunteers to help monitor the perimeter as peaceful observers and a community presence. If you're able to bring a **bike to patrol the surrounding area**, it's even better! Please choose a shift & [sign up here](#)! *Every set of eyes and every ounce of care helps keep our com-munity safe.*

Silicon Valley Pride – **Sat, Aug 30th – Sun, Aug 31st**. Stone Church will participate this year at the Pride Interfaith Booth. Sign-ups for greeters at the booth will be available soon. For now, mark the date, and if you have any questions, contact Rhonda Lakatos (brlakatos@comcast.net).

2025 CROP Walk Results! – Back on May 18th, nine energetic Stone members participated in the 2025 South Bay CROP Walk. Thanks to the generosity of many members and StoneWorks, we contributed \$5,216 towards ending hunger! Of the total \$29,568 raised by this Walk, 1/4 was divided among three local organizations: Second Harvest of Silicon Valley, Martha's Kitchen, and Sacred Heart Community Service. The remaining 3/4 went to Church World Service to be distributed globally. Good work, Stone Church!

Narthex Lunette – A *lunette* is a half-moon or semicircle-shaped alcove or recessed area of a wall. Our lunette above the door from the Narthex into the Sanctuary had been empty since the building's dedication in 1961, but in 2016 Jeanette Rapp, artist extraordinaire and stitcher of many of our Sanctuary banners, painted a beautiful mural to adorn the space. It depicts a Celtic or Ionic Cross with thistles at the foot, both harking back to our Presbyterian start in Scotland. The background is pure California, with golden hills, live oaks, eucalyptus, and redwoods (+palms), as well as California poppies. Our Men's Group, including Art Holtz, David McCreath, and Steve Nelson, helped Jeanette throughout the project with logistics, culminating in its installation in the Narthex just in time for Easter 2016. It is not a permanent installation, as it was painted on Masonite-backed canvas that is easily removed without damage to the wall.



July 20 – 27, 2025

Sunday (7/20)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10:30 - 11am Frappuccino Sunday - Coffee Hour
11 - 11:30am Triennium Mtg - Conf.Room

Monday (7/21)

9:30 - 11:30am **Fred H Vacation through Sat 8/9**
OMG - Conf.Room

Tuesday (7/22)

11am - 2:30pm
7 - 8:30pm

Fred H Vacation

Library Work - Conf.Room

Wednesday (7/23) Fred H Vacation

Thursday (7/24) Fred H Vacation

Friday (7/25) **Fred H Vacation through Sat 8/9**
 10 - 11:30am Caregivers' Support - Conf.Room

Saturday (7/26) **Fred H Vacation**
 1 - 3pm Prayer Shawl Ministry

Next Sunday (7/27) **Fred H Vacation**
 9:30 – 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
 10:30 – 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg	Judi Kaiser Jodi Lax Matthew Marcotte Marsha Wadley	Neale Barret Amity Bateman Stephanie Easton Joanne Vliet
The Board of Deacons		
Moderator ~ Marta Espinal (marta.espinal@sbcglobal.net)		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	Class of 2028
Neil Coleman Marta Espinal Kerry House-Nelson Karen Wessels Leland Wong	Mary Jo Blazek Jim Hagan Mary Ann Hudson Jenny Pichon Dorothy Rowe	Fran Cole Sherri Cunningham Larry Lermo Kathy Stark Kate Wheatley
Nominating Committee		
Chair ~ Amity Bateman (amity.bateman@gmail.com)		
Class of 2026	Class of 2027	
Susan Bedolla Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith	Janice Goertz Suzanne Wolf	

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