



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

**August 31, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.
22nd Day in Ordinary Time**

The Preparation for the Word

Chimes

Prelude

“God Renew Us by Your Spirit”

*Dale Wood (1934-2003)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell

***Call to Worship**

Joanne Vliet, Liturgist

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, you are God from everlasting to everlasting.

*Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so we may rejoice and be glad all our days.*

Establish the work of our hands, O God—

yes, prosper the work of our hands! Let us worship the Lord our God!

***Opening Hymn #267** *“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”*

1
*Come, Christians, join to sing
Alleluia! Amen!:
Loud praise to Christ our King;
Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice,
Before His throne rejoice;
Praise is His gracious choice.
Alleluia! Amen!*

3
*Praise yet our Christ again,
Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain;
Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore,
His goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore,
Alleluia! Amen!*

2
*Come, lift your hearts on high, Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky; Alleluia! Amen!
He is our Guide and Friend;
To us He'll condescend;
His love shall never end. Alleluia! Amen!*

***Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession

We were created for good work, for rest, and for joy in God's presence. But we have made our work into idols, our rest into avoidance, and our joy into self-indulgence. Let us confess our sin before God, who is gracious and merciful.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, You are our dwelling place in every generation. Yet we confess that we try to live as if everything depends on us. We measure our worth by our productivity, and we forget that your steadfast love is our true satisfaction.

We neglect Sabbath rest, we overlook those whose labor is unseen or undervalued, and we fail to seek justice for the worker, the stranger, and the poor.

Forgive us, O Lord. Establish the work of our hands, that our labor may serve your purposes and reflect your love. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news: "From everlasting to everlasting, you are God." (Psalm 90:2). God's mercy is older than our sin, God's love is deeper than our striving, and in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

***The Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn #415

"Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy"

1
*Come, ye sinners, poor and needy,
weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you,
full of pity, love, and power.*

Refrain:

***I will arise and go to Jesus;
he will embrace me in his arms.
In the arms of my dear Savior,
O there are ten thousand charms.***

2
*Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome;
God's free bounty glorify,
true belief and true repentance,
every grace that brings you nigh. [Refrain]*

3
*Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better,
you will never come at all. [Refrain]*

4
*Let not conscience make you linger,
nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requireth
is to feel your need of him. [Refrain]*

We Listen to God's Word

The First Lesson

Colossians 3:12–17 (N.T. p., 201)

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Anthem

"O How Amiable"

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958); Pick-up Choir

~ Please join in the last verse ~

***Oh God, our help in ages past; our hope for years to come.
Our shelter from the stormy blast and our eternal home.***

The Second Lesson

Psalms 90:1–2, 14–17 (O.T., p. 547)

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us and as many years as we have seen evil. Let your work be manifest to your servants and your glorious power to their children. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and prosper for us the work of our hands— O prosper the work of our hands!

Sermon

"The Work of our Hands"

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

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

*"Tú Has Venido a la Orilla - Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore
(Pescadero de Hombres)"*

Cesáreo Gabaráin; Judy West, vocal

***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**

God of steadfast love, you have satisfied us with your mercy and given us work to do in your world. Receive these gifts, and prosper the work of our hands. May they bless the weary, uplift the oppressed, and serve your kingdom of justice and peace. Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

***Closing Hymn #546**

"Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing"

1
*Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;
fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing,
triumph in redeeming grace.
O refresh us, O refresh us,
traveling through this wilderness.*

3
*Savior, when your love shall call us,
from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us,
glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever
reign with you in endless day.*

2
*Thanks we give and adoration
for your gospel's joyful sound;
may the fruits of your salvation
in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful
to your truth may we be found.*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Fanfare on 'St. Anne'"

Brenda Portman (b. 1980)

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

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

ASL Interpreter –

Announcements



<https://bit.ly/3FV1Sbv>

Zelle



<https://bit.ly/3VkJGr7x>

Hard copies available in Narthex

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 August, **Christian Ed Committee** 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 Amber to be added to her email list (childrensministry@stonechurch.org).

The Flowers are placed on the retable this morning by Mae and Cora Alwood in celebration of their parents' 17th anniversary. Happy Anniversary, Mommy and Daddy!

Today the (Roaming) SJ Presbytery Unity Candle is at [Watsonville Public House](#) (Rev. Robby Olson). Please pray for all God's people in this congregation.

Family Ministry Back to School BBQ - For families with kids of all ages, **next Sun, Sept 7th** (5-7pm) in the Stone Church backyard. Celebrate Back-to-School Season with a BBQ picnic for the whole family. Bring your own dinner; we will provide grills to grill on; as well as seating, beverages and treats, and activities for both younger and older kids. Enjoy community together as we embark on the new school year.

Fall Youth Events - Along with Family Ministry Back to School BBQ on 9/7, Malia has a full schedule of fun opportunities for our middle and high school youth. Next Sunday, during Worship, Malia will speak about her plans for this growing youth program.

Parent Meeting (6th-12th Graders), **Sun, Sept 14th** (11am-12pm) Fireside Room – Parents/caregivers of 6th-12th graders are invited to this *adults-only* meeting to meet Malia, hear about upcoming plans for the program, and ask questions. This is a casual gathering intended to provide information and a relational touch point for who will be working with your kids, as well as what we'll be up to.

Youth Group Meetings - Sunday nights (5-7pm) - Sunday nights for Stone Youth are relaxed and playful gatherings that focus primarily on being together. In a casual and warm environment, 6th-12th grade students can expect to play games, share a meal, and enjoy time spent building community. (9/14, 10/26 - Pumpkin party!; 11/9 - Youthsgiving Potluck; and 11/26).

Breakfast & Bibles - Sunday mornings (9:30-10:30am, Conference Room - during service) - 9/21, 10/12, 11/16 – This is a Sunday morning Bible study for 6th – 12th graders. We'll eat something yummy and dig deeper into Scripture.

High School Discussion Group - Tuesday nights (7:30-9pm Fireside Room) - 9/16, 10/7, 10/14, 10/21, 10/28 – Weekly topical discussion group, just for high schoolers. Here we will practice sharing our opinions as well as listening and receiving what

High School Discussion Group - cont

.... others have to say. Open to everyone (theys, gays, shes, hes, and everything in between).

Middle School Meet Up-

Wednesday nights (7-8:30pm) - 9/17, 10/15, 11/12 - Middle School students, let's hang out! These monthly get togethers will be at rotating locations, mark your calendars and stay tuned for more info as they get closer.

Youth Game Night -

Friday 9/26 (7-9pm Easton's) – Come over for a game night, hosted by the Easton Family! Bring a snack to share. Treats will be provided. RSVPs stephaniekeaston@gmail.com

Spooky Sleepover –

Friday 10/10 (5pm) – We've turned the corn maze event into a sleepover! Meet at Stone, we'll drive to Spina Farms together, have dinner (BYO dinner or \$ for dinner), and hit up the corn maze and hayride. Afterward we'll go back to Stone for a sleepover. Pickup is 9:30 am Saturday (10/11). RSVP to malia@stonechurch.org.

1st Annual Stone Youth Turkey Trot – Thursday 11/27 (9:30-10:30 am) – Campbell Park LG Creek Trail. More info to come!

Kick-Off Sunday! - Sun, Sept 14th – The choir returns, as well as Church School, Adult Ed, and Youth Group!

Adult Ed in 2 weeks – Sun, Sept 14th Join Craig Edgerton, the author of *Permission to Walk in Peace*. This book is an anthology crafted by combat veterans, offering an artistic blend of poetry, essays, and stories that explore the intense

and personal aftermath of war. It's unique in that it provides a first-hand account of healing from military PTSD that no other book has ever offered. Through their raw and personal recounting of events, the veterans share how they have chosen to grow from their experience and not be victims of it. The goal is to offer a beacon of hope for anyone dealing with trauma.

September's Taizé Service is this coming Tues, Sept 2nd (1st Tuesday of every month). Please come explore this time of quiet, music, scripture, and prayer. Sanctuary doors open at 6:30pm, service starts at 6:45pm.

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.

Saying Goodbye to Gary & Carol - Sadly, **next Sun, Sept 7th** we say goodbye to **Gary Fritz and Carol Johnson-Fritz**. They joined the church in 2017 and Gary served as an Elder. Carol was involved with the 2018 women's homeless shelter here at Stone, as well as being the talented sewer of many stoles for our pastors, and quilts! They're moving back to the East Coast, where a lucky church and neighborhood will gain their talents and fellowship. Join us after worship next week for some yummy treats provided by our departing friends.

Saying Goodbye to Fran & Julia - Equally sad, on **Sun, Sept 28th** we celebrate **Fran Basso and Julia Kraemer** (with cupcakes!) and bid them safe travels as they relocate to Vancouver, WA. Both are longtime members, joining Stone in 2013, and Rev. Irene Pak Lee officiated their wedding on Halloween 2014! Fran's September retirement is spurring on this move north to be closer to Julia's mother. Their innumerable contributions to Stone Church include helping establish and grow our Deaf Ministry program, organizing Family Movie Nights, preparing and serving Thanksgiving suppers, photographers of many church events, and devoting countless hours to the Membership and Communications Committee programs. (Fran served as an Elder in the M&C Vice Chair position for several years). Their cheerful presence and passionate support for our community will be missed! **A card/gift basket will be placed in the Social Hall during September. If you would like to offer a card or memento to Fran and Julia, please do so no later than September 28th.**

Pariter Vocal Ensemble (PVE) (Resounding Achord Pro-ductions) rents rehearsal space from Stone and they invite us to their open rehearsal, **Mon, Sept 8th** (7:45pm) in the Social Hall. Come see and hear what PVE's rehearsals look and sound like, OR, if you are interested in singing tenor-bass choral music, they are welcoming new singers! This season is going to include some of PVE's most exciting repertoire to date, including high Renaissance music by Josquin des Prez and contemporary holiday music by Saunder Choi. **All are welcome, regardless of gender or voice part.** If you can sing in the tenor-bass range, you are invited to sit in and sing along with the ensemble. If not, please come and listen! For more information, email albee@resoundingachord.org.

Climate Justice – Sun, Sep 21st (12:30pm), the San José community will come together, as part of a national weekend of climate mobilization, to stand for climate justice and clean energy. March together for climate justice, starting at First Unitarian Church of San José (160 N. 3rd. SJ), processing to City Hall for brief speeches and a photo, then returning to St. James Park for a community picnic and connection. Please wear green, bring signs or banners, and invite your friends to participate. This is a family-friendly event. RSVP to bit.ly/sjsunday. Questions? Email annalourawagner@gmail.com.



Budget & Finance – Grave Sites - Going through old files, we discovered that there are two grave sites at Oak Hill Cemetery, donated to Stone by a member several years ago. If you are just dying to get in on this deal, contact B&F Chair Neale Barret (neale.barret@gmail.com) by the end of September. If none of you want to buy them, we'll begin the process of selling them at market price online.

Calendar

August 31 – September 7, 2025

Sunday (8/31)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
11am - 1pm Nom Com - Conf.Room
5 - 7pm Chromatic Rehearsal - SH

Monday (9/1)

Labor Day – Office Closed
9:30 - 11:30am OMG - Conf.Room
7:30pm B&F - Zoom
7:45 - 9pm Pariter Rehearsal - SH

Tuesday (9/2)

4:30 - 6:30pm Worship Mtg - Conf.Room
6:30 - 7:30pm Taizé Service - SA
7:30pm B&G, CE, StoneWorks - Zoom

Wednesday (9/3)

1 - 3pm Amethyst Circle - Zoom
3 - 5pm Stephen Minister Leaders -
Conf.Room
4:30 - 6:15pm Vivace - SH

Thursday (9/4)

10 - 11am Emerald Circle - Zoom
5 - 8pm Vivace - SH

Friday (9/5)

Saturday (9/6)

Next Sunday (9/7)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
11am - 1pm Nom Com - Conf.Room
5-7pm BBQ - Patio/ Backyard / SH / K
5 - 7pm Chromatic Rehearsal - SA

SEPTEMBER Birthdays - (2nd) Mary Anne Williams; (3rd) Wynn Barnes; (5th) Sonia Perez; (8th) Darline Lohman; (9th) Tracy Rydel; (10th) Jodi Lax, Michele Smith, Samantha Blodgett; (11th) Carl Blackwood; (12th) Jim Hamm; (16th) Mary-Stone Bowers; (19th) Art Holtz, Maureen Searing & Barbara Vella; (20th) Virginia Holtz; (21st) Donna Bell; (22nd) Carol Johnson Fritz; (25th) Nancy Hopson; (29th) Mary Johnson & Michael Wheatley; (30th) Salese Kanter & Ginger Lubecke.

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

Jan & Jerry Keifer (9/13/58); Sue & Doug Williams (9/14/68); Ida & Bruce Raby (9/18/54); Kim & Jeff Mattan (9/21/07); Peggy & Alan Spool (9/23/84).

STAFF DIRECTORY

Rev. Fred Harrell – Transitional Pastor

Pastor@stonechurch.org

Rev. Dr. David McCreath – Parish Associate

Rev. Marge Palmer – Pastor Emerita

ChoirDirector@stonechurch.org – Nancy Kromm

Organist@stonechurch.org – Barbara Vella

Family & Youth Ministry Director – Malia Clark

Malia@stonechurch.org

ChildrensMinistry@stonechurch.org – Amber Biscardi

ChildrensChoir@stonechurch.org – Peggy Spool

OfficeManager@stonechurch.org – Jennifer Scott-Brand

Treasurer@stonechurch.org – Ruthanne Martinez

ASL Interpreter Coordinator

stonechurch.stephfoisy@gmail.com

Nursery Supervisor – Mary Jo Blazek

Custodians – Victor & Sonia Perez

Memorial Coordinator – Hilleguus Faber

Wedding Coordinator – Lizanne Oliver

Parish Nurse – Mary Johnson

WebMaster@stonechurch.org – Jody Meacham

IT@stonechurch.org

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

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 August, the **Christian Education Committee** and friends serve coffee & refreshments after worship. All are invited!

ELECTED LEADERS

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
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)		
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	<u>Class of 2028</u>
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)		
<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>	
Susan Bedolla Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith	Janice Goertz Suzanne Wolf	

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Stone Church of Willow Glen

