

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

August 7, 2022 - 9:30 a.m. 9th 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.

Chimes

Prelude "Romance" (de la Suite D'Orchestre, op. 49)

> Camile Saint-Saens (1835-1921) Barbara Vella, Organist

Welcome & Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Evie Macway, Interim Pastor and Meredith Hurley

Call to Worship (from PCUSA Call to Worship 2022)

Susan Bedolla, Liturgist

Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Faith is a gift to be received, treasured, and shared with joy and thanksgiving. Let us worship together in faith.

*Opening Hymn #466

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise. the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!

Christ breaks the power of reigning sin, and sets the prisoner free: Christ's blood can make the foulest clean;

Christ's blood availed for me.

2

Jesus! the name that charms our fears. that bids our sorrows cease. 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name.

Call to Confession (Hebrews 11:1)

"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen." Let us go to God in confession.

Prayer of Confession (from *Homiletics*)

Loving God, we have many definitions of faith, yet we still struggle with how to live our faith in you.

We find ourselves trusting in our routines and what we know.

We find it difficult to live with a "conviction of things not seen."

Give us eyes of faith and hearts of compassion to live as your children in the world.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Jody Meacham

Through Christ we know God's faithfulness to us.

In Christ we find forgiveness and new life each day. Let us live in the new life we have through Christ.

The Passing of the Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Please remain seated and greet folks seated around you with a sign of peace.

We Listen To God's Word

The First Lesson

Genesis 15:1-6 (O.T., p. 12)

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Anthem

"O Divine Redeemer"

Charles Gounod (1818-93) Janet Souza

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (*N.T.*, p. 225)

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.'

All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people

who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

Communion Meditation

"Faith... Longing... Restlessness"

Rev. Evie Macway

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

"Lilliburlero" Offertory

Richard Purvis (1913-94)

*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.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Derk Johnson and Emily Meacham, communion servers

"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" Communion Hymn #514

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy. Bread is broken, the wine is poured. Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Christ is able to make us one. At the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

<Refrain>

<Refrain>

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share. God (Immanuel) everuwhere!

<Refrain>

Invitation to the Table (from John 6:35)

Jesus said, "I am the bread of life, whoever comes to me will never be hungry and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

We are invited to come just as we are, that we may be filled by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We are invited that we may share together in the fellowship and community of Jesus Christ.

Let us come together around this table in thanksgiving and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

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

^{*}Prayer of Dedication

It is right to give our thanks and praise

It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

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.

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.

Words of Institution

*Sharing the Bread & Cup

Communion Anthem

"One Bread, One Body"

arr. Ron Schmoltze

Prayer after Communion

O God, we give you grateful thanks for all that lies within this meal.

May our lives show the signs that love is possible.

Grace is believable,

and compassion is our way of life. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

*Closing Hymn #316

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

1
Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love the way you love,
and do what you would do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, until my heart is pure, until my will is one with yours, to do and to endure.

3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly Thine, Until this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine.

4
Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with you the perfect life
of thine eternity.

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

"Psalm XIX: The Heavens Declare the Glory of God"

Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

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.

ASL Interpreter ~

Bulletin cover art: "The Best Supper" ©Jan Richardson

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.

The liturgist this morning is **Susan Bedolla**.

Today's Deacon greeter is Nancy Bell.

This week's ushers are Fran Basso and Kathy Stark.

You are invited to join us for coffee and fellowship on the patio after the Worship service. During August, the **Christian Education & Nominating Committees** and friends are serving coffee and refreshments.

<u>Membership Inquiry Luncheons: Mar & Nov</u>
Contact evie macway@stonechurch.org

<u>Welcome Guests and Visitors!</u> We hope you already feel at home among us here at Stone Church. Please join us for refreshments and fellowship after worship. During the summer months, children remain in worship with you for the entire service; they are welcome to join the other children during the Children's Sermon. **Children's church school will return in the fall.**

<u>We Welcome</u> the sound of any little ones during worship, but if your baby gets too wiggly for you, you may take them to the nursery, located in the hallway between the Sanctuary & the Social Hall. The nursery is for children ages 0-3.

<u>The Flowers</u> on the Retable this morning are to honor the 47th anniversary of Dhar and Carl Blackwood.

<u>The Liturgical Arts</u> group will be celebrating their 6th anniversary at a luncheon **this coming Fri, Aug 12th** (1pm) on the lawn at Jeanette' Rapp's house. All present and past participants are welcome, and if you are thinking about becoming a member in the future, come and join us, too.. Contact <u>jeanette.rapp@comcast.net</u> for more info.

<u>Silicon Valley Pride Month</u> – First Congregational Church, 1980 Hamilton Ave (at Leigh), invites everyone to a free neighborhood festival **this coming Sat, Aug 13**th (11am - 3pm). BBQ, shave ice, arts & crafts sale, bounce house, live music, LGBTQ Youth Space Drag Performers, etc.

<u>Sabbatical Reminder</u> – During Rev. Irene Pak Lee's three-month sabbatical (Aug/Sep/Oct) she will not check email, but Rev. Evie Macway will be here, and her door is always open. For any questions or concerns, contact the office or Evie (<u>evie_macway@stonechurch.org</u>).

<u>Anointing ~ 2nd Sundays</u> – **Next week, Aug 14th** after worship, there will be opportunity for individuals to have a moment of personal prayer and anointing. Anointing is an ancient practice that continues in today's churches, and was originally used to designate public leaders, such as kings, or used as part of a healing process for illnesses. The practice at Stone Church has been to use it as a symbol of God's grace.

Anointing is an act calling forth the Holy Spirit. It is not magic or mysterious, but a way of demonstrating the presence of God, of the desire of God that we find peace and comfort.

<u>Men's Book Group</u> meets **Mon, Aug 15th** (7 pm) at David McCreath's, 15860 Poppy Lane #1, LG, to discuss "A Woman of No Importance" by Sonia Purnell. All men are welcome; even if you haven't read it, come anyway, for the conversation, wine & snacks.

<u>Faith in Action</u> – **Next Sun, Aug. 14**th (12-1pm on Zoom) West Hope Presbyterian Church will host a presentation with Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Chair-woman Charlene Nijmeh speaking about her people and their current work to regain tribal recognition by the government. Join using link: <u>us02web.zoom.us/j/87929035945?pwd=Wmx6Z3g5S0NGLzBGUkMzQmtwenhLQT09</u>

In addition, along the Guadalupe River there is a beautiful mural by Alfonso Salazar called "We Are Still Here" honoring the Muwekma Ohlone people and their long history in this valley. The river has been a major Muwekma ancestral heritage site for approx. 2,000 years. Click on this San Jose State University link to view the mural and read more: https://www.sjsu.edu/transform/spartan-spotlight/muwekma-ohlone.php

GA 2022 - The 225th General Assembly of the PC(USA) recently approved ENV-10 calling for divestment from five oil and gas companies: Chev-ron, ExxonMobil, Marathon Petroleum, Phillips 66 and Valero Energy. The assembly said the companies were not doing enough to slow global warming. Mission Responsibility Through Invest-ment (MRTI) reports that this is the first time the PC(USA) has voted to divest from companies out of compliance with GA's environmental policies, which were established in 2018. To get a summary of other GA actions (elected officers, Israel/Palestine, Race & Gender justice, gun violence, OGA/PMA unification, and more), go to https://ga-pcusa.org/.

<u>Deacon Luncheon</u> – Sat, Sep 10th (noon - 2pm), join us on the patio for an afternoon of fall food, fun and creativity at the Annual Deacons' Lunch-eon. Sign-up in the Social Hall after worship, or contact Nanci Eksterowicz (1-408-887-2965, <u>nancigrace@comcast.net</u>), or Jenny Pichon (<u>iennypichon@gmail.com</u>). Attendance is limited, so sign up now! Please RSVP by Sept 1st. In addition, let us know if you need a ride.

<u>Flowers for the Retable</u> - Please consider bringing flowers (from your garden or purchased) on a given Sunday to adorn the retable in honor of a loved one, a friend, a birth, or just because you want to contribute color to our beautiful sanctuary. Sign-up on the Flower Calendar, in the Narthex; then, contact (<u>office_manager@stonechurch.org</u>), or Diane Van Den Bosch (<u>dianevdb@comcast.net</u>) with the info you want in the bulletin.

August 7 - 14, 2022

Sunday (8/7)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Com'u'n - SA &

Zoom

10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - Patio

10:45am PNC - Gazebo

Monday (8/8)

Tuesday (8/9)

11:30am - 1pm PW Lunch Bunch - Taiwan

Rest.

7pm Stewardship - Zoom;

StoneWorks - Zoom

7:30pm P&A - Zoom

Wednesday (8/10)

Thursday (8/11)

9:30 - 11:30am PWCT - SH **Friday (8/12)** Jennifer off

1:30 - 4pm Liturgical Arts - Room 1

Saturday (8/13)

Next Sunday (8/14)

9:30 - 10:30am Worship - SA & Zoom 10:30 - 11am Anointing & Prayer - SA 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - Patio

11am - 12pm PNC - Gazebo

AUGUST Birthdays: (2nd) Don D'Angelo & Alice Thorn; (3rd) Walter Roach; (5th) Bob Cole; (8th) Devon Brook; (9th) Andrew Clark; (10th) Hilleguus Faber; (11th) Beth Lococo; (12th) James Lathrop; (15th) Jenny Pichon; (16th) Jordan Guenther; (17th) Matt Coleman & Gary Weiss; (18th) Christopher Smith; (21st) Mary-Ann Hudson; (22nd) Bruce Raby; (24th) Caitlin Tips; (26th) Allen Bartu; (28th) Jodi Leibowitz; (30th) Marion Lee.

AUGUST Anniversaries: Joyce & Lawrence Summers (8/2/1964); Michelle & Brandon Walters (8/6/2011); Lizanne & Fred Oliver (8/8/1970); Sandi & John Lococo (8/16/1981); Virginia & Art Holtz (8/20/1960); Diana & Ray Lim (8/23/1959); Wayne & Mercedes Martin (8/28/1960)

The Elders of the Session Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim		
Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Bob Cole	Fran Basso	Jeremy Easton
Derk Johnson	Carter Edwards	Donna Erickson
Emily Meacham	Gary Fritz	Carrie Giorgianni
Nina Mundi	Meredith Hurley	Mel Goertz
Fred Oliver	Barbara Krause	Chris Lee
Kathy Stark	Brad Tips	Jeff Mattan
The Board of Deacons		
Moderator ~ Angie Davidson		
Class of 2023	Class of 2024	Class of 2025
Tim Collins	Michele Edwards	Nancy Bell
Angie Davidson	Morgan Lord	Gail Chaid
Nanci Eksterowicz	Wendy Lord	Sheri Cunningham
Sue Evans	Kathleen Oliver	Janice Goertz
Julia Kiplinger	Nancy Paul	Chris Nilson
Nancy Shearer	Jenny Pichon	Laraine Pitcher
	Maureen Searing	
	Brandon Walters	

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STAFF DIRECTORY

The Rev. Evie Macway – Interim Pastor evie_macway@stonechurch.org

The Rev. Irene Pak Lee - Associate Pastor (on Sabbatical Leave through October)

The 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

Peggy Spool - Children's Choir Director

Mary Jo Blazek - Church School Administrator maryjo_blazek@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

Presbyterian Women – Jan Keifer - keiferjj@sbcglobal.net;

Stephen Ministry Coordinator - Pauline Moore paulinemoorepower@gmail.com

StoneCares - Stonecares@stonechurch.org