**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

7300 Spout Hill Road, Sykesville, MD 21784 410-795-6152



**![chrch7c[1]]()March 20, 2022 - 10:30 am**

 **WELCOME VISITORS!** We're glad you are here! Cards at the ends of each pew are for you to fill out and drop in the Offering Plate. Please let us know you are visiting, and join us for refreshments and fellowship following the service. The Sanctuary has an induction loop system to assist the hearing impaired. The system will also work on the telephone setting of hearing aids.

Springfield Presbyterian Church is rooted in the gospel of Jesus Christ, led by the Holy Spirit, and called to loving relationships through vibrant worship and service. Valuing all people, we are committed to developing disciples and fostering stewardship.

**PREPARATION FOR THE WORD**

(**\*** those who are able are invited to stand)

**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!** (Greeting)

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Leader: Whenever we light this candle we proclaim:

**People: Christ is the Light of the world and the center of our lives.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Come, all who are thirsty.

**People: Come, all who are seeking.**

Leader: Come, all who are waiting.

**People: Come, all who labor.**

Leader: Come, all who need rest.

**People: Come, all who dream dreams.**

Leader: Come, whether you’re young or old, confident or curious, lonely or hopeful.

**People: This is God’s house. All are welcome here.**

**ALL: Let us worship our Holy God!**

**\* HYMN** *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy* #435

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt that up in heaven.

There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,

And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: There is something so healing, so life-giving, about telling our stories. In the prayer of confession, that is what we get to do. The mask comes off. Any pretense of perfection is removed. We let the pressure to perform and conform slip away and we sit here, face to face with God, sharing honestly who we long to be. Friends, there is healing here. There is life to be gained here. So, join me in this moment of honesty. Join me in the prayer of confession.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, we treat our self-worth like something that can be bought at a store; but you know this even better than we do. Instead of trusting that we are made good, instead of trusting that we are loved exactly as we are, in trophies and awards and in wealth and power. Forgive us for creating our own measuring**

**stick. Heal our open wounds and tell our hearts that we won’t be forgotten if we slow down. We won’t be forgotten if we rest. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *O Lord, Hear My Prayer* (sing two times) Tune #471

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call, answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Friends, take a deep breath. Release the tension in your jaw. There is good news here. For even when we stumble, even when we take the easy way out, even when we forget our own self-worth, even when we lose our way – we belong to God. So, say it with me:

**People: We are loved. We are claimed. We are under God’s wing. We are worthy of grace. We belong to God. Amen.**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Come, Thou Almighty King* (v. 4)

 To thee, great One in Three, eternal praises be, hence evermore!

Thy sovereign majesty may we in glory see, and to eternity love and adore.

**\* THE PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

 (You may greet those around you.)

**\* RESPONSE** *Here I Am, Lord*

 Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

 I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

**THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

God of fig trees and foxes, of today and tomorrow, we would like to ask that you scoop us up. Pick us up like a great gust of wind. Startle us awake like a first love. Light a fire in us like tomorrow depends on today. Do all of this to get our attention and then turn us to you. We are a scattered people, God. The world is moving faster than we can keep up. So we pray – scoop us up. Catch our eye, open our ears, capture our attention. We are here. We long to be close to you. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Isaiah 55:1-13*

Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. 2 Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. 3 Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. 4 See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. 5 See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

6 Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
7 let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. 8 For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord. 9 For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. 10 For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, 11 so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
12 For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. 13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**  *Luke 13:1-9*

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. 2He asked them, ‘Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? 3No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. 4Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? 5No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.’

6 Then he told this parable: ‘A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. 7So he said to the gardener, “See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?” 8He replied, “Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig round it and put manure on it. 9If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.” ’

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

 **All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**  *Planted on Solid Ground* Rev. Becca Crate-Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *Feed Us, Lord* #501

Feed us Lord. Feed us, Lord. In the broken bread,

Be revealed again. Come and feed our hearts, O Lord.

Quench us, Lord. Quench us, Lord. On this thirsty ground,

May your love flow down. Come and quench our hearts, O Lord.

Fill us, Lord. Fill us, Lord, with the bread and wine of the risen

Christ. Come and fill our hearts, O Lord.

Lead us, Lord. Lead us, Lord, nourished here by Christ,

Given strength for life. Come and lead our hearts, O Lord.

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**ANTHEM** *Mercy Still* Arr. Heather Sorenson

**\* HYMN** *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* #65

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty. Hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more;
Feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: As you leave this place, may we be awestruck by the beauty of this world.

**People: May we laugh and may it be contagious.**

Leader: May we overflow with love for those around us.

**People: May we be filled with hope and quick to point out joy.**

Leader: In all of our living, and breathing, and being,

**People: May we find ourselves full to the brim with the God’s Holy Spirit,**

Leader: And may it change our lives.

**People: In the name of the Beloved and Love itself – let us go in peace, full to the brim. Amen.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

**Assisting in Worship: We appreciate those who serve:**

 Today 3/20 Next Week 3/27

Sunday Opener Barbara Cornell Beth Oates

Greeter Don Vasbinder Cynthia Smith

Lay Leader Ron Holmes Diana Steppling

**Happy Birthday!**  March 21 – Shirley Sluder

 March 23 – Anna Halvorson

 March 23 – Laura Wise

**Sunday March 27, 2022 Lectionary**

Joshua 5:9-12; Psalm 32; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

**Announcements**

**Springfield Membership:** Are you interested in finding out more about our faith community and becoming a member? We would love to answer any questions you have. Please contact Pastor Becca at springfieldpastor@gmail.com for more information.

**Mask Update:** By the agreement of Session, we are now making masks optional. We do want to encourage you, if you feel compelled or have any underlying conditions, to keep your mask on. If you do wish to take off your mask though, we are also happy to see your faces. More information about fellowship and other practices will be coming as we make our way back to normalcy.

**Lay Leader and Greeter Lists Correction:** Corrections to phone numbers on the Lay Leader and Greeter lists: Tim Oates 443-974-1227 and Beth Oates 443-974-1078.

**Per Capita:** Per Capita is how we Presbyterian congregations care for each other and stay connected. It funds mission work, support and training for pastors and congregations, and administration expenses. Our portion this year is $38.13; $28 remains at Presbytery, $1.15 to Synod, and $8.98 to General Assembly. You will find this expense in our budget but you can help offset that and show your support by contributing that portion as faithful members. There is a wonderful article by J. Herbert Nelson, Stated Clerk for PC(USA) that can be found by going to baltimorepresbytery.org/percapita and then scroll to the bottom of the page to click on *Stated Clerk: What per capita pays for, why it matters.*

**Congregational Care / Mission & Outreach:** Do you know of a member or friend of our church family who is ill, needs prayers, would like call, a visit or a card, or might benefit from meal train? If so, please contact the Church Office (410-795-6152), Cathy Marsh (410-549-6916) or Diana Steppling (862-266-2242).

***Today:***

**Sunday March 20 – 3rd Sunday in Lent**

10:30 am Worship

 11:30 am Fellowship

***This Week:***

**Wednesday March 23**

 6:15 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

 7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

***Looking Ahead:***

 **Sunday March 27 – 4th Sunday in Lent**

10:30 am Worship

 11:30 am Fellowship

 **Wednesday March 30**

6:15 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

 7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

**Website:** [*www.springfield-church.org*](http://www.springfield-church.org)**Church Office**: 410-795-6152

**Like us on Facebook:** www.facebook.com/SpringfieldPresbyterianChurch

**Pastor:** Rev. Becca Crate-Price

**Email:** springfieldpastor@gmail.com

**Clerk of Session:** Sharon Pappas

**Minister of Music:** Linda Caviglia

**Accompanist/Organist:** Aaron Thacker

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

**Administrative Assistant:**Donna Mazer**e-mail:***spc.office@verizon.net*