**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

Text

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**October 30, 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.**

**INTROIT** *Morning Has Broken* Gwen Yeager, Cymbells

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In the last eight weeks, we have asked important questions of ourselves and one another.

**People: We have opened our hearts, minds, and spirits to curiosity and vulnerability.**

Leader: We have asked, “Where do you come from?”

**People: We celebrated the diversity and unity among us.**

Leader: We have asked, “Where does it hurt?”

**People: We acknowledged the pain that resounds and have sought to be Christ to one another.**

Leader: We have asked, “What do you need?”

**People: We know that where one may be in need, another may be able to provide.**

Leader: As we end this series, the question, “Where do we go from here?” leads us on.

**People: It leads us to continue the conversation and reflect Christ’s kingdom on Earth.**

Leader: So let us enter this space of worship, asking the Holy Spirit to reign over us, for Christ’s light to guide us, and for God’s covenantal love to be present within us and around us.

**People: Let us worship our Sovereign God.**

**\* HYMN** *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy* GTG #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: This time together in this series has been one of growth, but I must admit, it is hard to answer the last question, “Where do we go from here?” Where do we even start? I know that I do not stand alone in wondering how we let these questions and other questions that arise become part of our practice of Christian life together. The blessing is, that as we come to admit our sin before God, the Spirit will take over and lead us together. With that abiding trust, let us confess our sins together…

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Generous God, it would be easy to close this chapter and not look back on the questions that have been asked and answered these last eight weeks. It is tempting, in fact, to stay in our comfort zones and to avoid vulnerability. As we feel ourselves drifting,**

**forgive us and lead us back. Bring us back to this space, help us to commit to the continued work, and forgive us for our human inclination to not carry Sunday worship beyond these doors. Restore us, renew us, reclaim us as your people, O Lord we pray. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Hear My Prayer, O God*  Tune #782

Hear my prayer, O God, and listen to my plea;

Faithful, righteous One, give ear and answer me.

Judge me not, I pray; no merit dare I claim;

Knowing my own faults, I trust in your just Name.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: The blessing of authentic confession is that once we name the sin, it has been let go of and peace can be found. In that peace, God forgives us and renews us once again to be in right relationship with God and one another.

**People: Thanks be to God for this abundant grace and forgiveness. Alleluia and amen!**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *O My Soul, Bless Your Redeemer*

Bless your Maker, all you creatures, ever under God’s control,

All throughout God’s vast dominion; bless the Lord of all, my soul!

**\* 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**

Loving God, by the power of your Spirit, remove any obstacle from our path and reveal your Word to us. Teach us how your Word meets the world and our lives. In Jesus Christ we pray, amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Acts 10:10-33*

10He became hungry and wanted something to eat; and while it was being prepared, he fell into a trance. 11He saw the heaven opened and something like a large sheet coming down, being lowered to the ground by its four corners. 12In it were all kinds of four-footed creatures and reptiles and birds of the air. 13Then he heard a voice saying, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ 14But Peter said, ‘By no means, Lord; for I have never eaten anything that is profane or unclean.’ 15The voice said to him again, a second time, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’ 16This happened three times, and the thing was suddenly taken up to heaven. 17Now while Peter was greatly puzzled about what to make of the vision that he had seen, suddenly the men sent by Cornelius appeared. They were asking for Simon’s house and were standing by the gate. 18They called out to ask whether Simon, who was called Peter, was staying there. 19While Peter was still thinking about the vision, the Spirit said to him, ‘Look, three men are searching for you. 20Now get up, go down, and go with them without hesitation; for I have sent them.’ 21So Peter went down to the men and said, ‘I am the one you are looking for; what is the reason for your coming?’ 22They answered, ‘Cornelius, a centurion, an upright and God-fearing man, who is well spoken of by the whole Jewish nation, was directed by a holy angel to send for you to come to his house and to hear what you have to say.’ 23So Peter invited them in and gave them lodging.

The next day he got up and went with them, and some of the believers from Joppa accompanied him. 24The following day they came to Caesarea. Cornelius was expecting them and had called together his relatives and close friends. 25On Peter’s arrival Cornelius met him, and falling at his feet, worshipped him. 26But Peter made him get up, saying, ‘Stand up; I am only a mortal.’ 27And as he talked with him, he went in and found that many had assembled; 28and he said to them, ‘You yourselves know that it is unlawful for a Jew to associate with or to visit a Gentile; but God has shown me that I should not call anyone profane or unclean. 29So when I was sent for, I came without objection. Now may I ask why you sent for me?’ 30Cornelius replied, ‘Four days ago at this very hour, at three o’clock, I was praying in my house when suddenly a man in dazzling clothes stood before me. 31He said, “Cornelius, your prayer has been heard and your alms have been remembered before God. 32Send therefore to Joppa and ask for Simon, who is called Peter; he is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner, by the sea.” 33Therefore I sent for you immediately, and you have been kind enough to come. So now all of us are here in the presence of God to listen to all that the Lord has commanded you to say.’

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Acts 10:34-48*

34Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, 35but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. 36You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. 37That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. 39We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; 40but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, 41not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 42He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. 43All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’ 44While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. 45The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, 46for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ 48So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *Staying Curious* Rev. Becca Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *No Longer* Tune#49

No longer Jew or Greek, no longer slave or free —  
In you, O Christ, we're given wondrous unity.  
Here in your church we learn that nothing can divide;  
Here men and women, called by God, serve side by side.

No longer in your church should there be rich or poor —  
You taught us kingdom values worth our struggling for.  
Here some have wealth to give, and some, great faith to share.  
The life we live together is an answered prayer.

No longer left or right, defending our own case —  
O God, we're sinners in your sight, in need of grace.  
The common bond we know is Christ who sets us free;  
In Christ we live and love and grow in unity.

O God, we look around and know (each one) our guilt;  
By your own Spirit, now break down the walls we've built.  
When we were all baptized, we died to our old ways;  
A church diverse, yet one in Christ, we give you praise.

Biblical Reference: Galatians 3:23-29  
Tune: Traditional Hebrew Melody ("The God of Abraham Praise")  [(MIDI)](https://carolynshymns.com/midifiles/aurelia.midi)  
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**ALL SAINTS’ DAY**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Leader: God of the ages, we praise you for all your servants, who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God. For apostles and martyrs and saints of every time and place, who in life and death have witnessed to your truth.

**People: We praise you, O God.**

Leader: For all your servants who have faithfully served you, witnessed bravely, and died in faith, who still are shining lights in the world,

**People: We praise you, O God.**

Leader: For those no longer remembered, who earnestly sought you in darkness, who held fast their faith in trial, and served others,

**People: We praise you, O God.**

Leader: For those we have known and loved, who by their faithful obedience and steadfast hope, have shown the same mind that was in Christ Jesus,

**People: We praise you, O God.**

Leader: Keep us grateful for their witness, and, like them, eager to follow in the way of Christ. Then at the last, bring us to them to share in the inheritance of the saints in light; through Jesus Christ the pioneer and perfector of our faith, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

The Saints in Our Presence (Exploration of three panels)

The Placing of the Carnations

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND OUR LORD’S PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY** *Christ, We See You* by Ken Medema

SONG OF THANKS *Great God of Every Blessing* Tune #694

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,

You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:

Sincerely and completely I offer you my heart.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak* GTG #722

Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone.  
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children, lost and lone.

O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the wandering and the wavering feet.  
O feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungering ones with manna sweet.

O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious truths which you impart.  
And wing my words that they may reach the hidden depths of many a heart.

O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my very heart o'erflow  
in kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

O use me, Lord, use even me, just as you will, and when, and where  
until your blessed face I see, your rest, your joy, your glory share.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: As you leave this place, may God grant us,

**People: The curiosity to counter assumptions,**

Leader: The vulnerability to befriend,

**People: The bravery to speak your truth,**

Leader: The wisdom to listen,

**People: The strength to ask for help,**

Leader: The resiliency to choose love, even when it’s hard,

**People: And the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside us.**

Leader: In the name of our Great God, who is Love itself, may you go in peace.

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

**Sunday, November 6, 2022 Lectionary**

Job 19:23-27a; Psalm 17:1-9; 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17;

Luke 20:27-38

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

Today 10/30 Next Week 11/6

Sunday Opener Beth Oates Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters Steve & Donna Elizabeth Meirowitz

Mazer Beth Oates

Lay Leader Bob Steppling Diana Steppling

**Happy Birthday!** November 1 – Olivia Oates

November 2 – Omar Izaguirre

November 3 – Brenda McClung

**Happy Anniversary!** November 4 – Alex & Brenda McClung

**Announcements**

**All Saints’ Day:** As a community of faith, we will have the opportunity to celebrate and remember the saints that came before us; in particular, the ones who have touched our lives. During worship **TODAY**, there will be a time for reflection and naming those who have passed on.

**Noisy Offering**: The final Noisy Offering of the year will be received

**TODAY**. The money collected will be sent to HAPPY THON, a local Christmas event for underserved children and families in the Sykesville area. So, bring your change and let’s make some noise and a difference!

**Fall Clean-Up:** Please join us on Saturday, **November 5** from 9-11 am for our fall clean-up around the Church and Manse grounds. See Carl Anderson or Sharon Pappas for more information.

**Giving Thanks Potluck**: November is a month of giving thanks. We may gather with family and friends around a Thanksgiving table at the end of the month, but we have another opportunity as well. On **November 6**, Springfield will celebrate our annual “Giving Thanks Potluck Lunch” after worship. We invite you to sign up and bring your favorite dish to share, pitch in with rolls, or chips, or just bring yourselves and your family. Signing up will show us how many tables to set up and what gaps we need to fill, but please come anyway. November 6 is also Stewardship Sunday, another opportunity to give thanks through giving. And don't forget to change your clocks back--you'll have an extra hour to prepare for the lunch!

**Called Congregational Meeting:** Our called congregational meeting is immediately following worship on Sunday, **November 13**.  We will vote on Pastor Becca's Terms of Call for 2023.  We will also elect new members to the nominating committee for work next year putting together a slate of three elders for election in April.  Copies of the Terms of Call will be available that Sunday and Zoomers will also be able to see the document.

**Mask Update:** Since COVID-19 is still with us, the Session has decided that masking and social distancing is encouraged but is optional. Though it is not a mandate, we seek to love one another by keeping each other as safe as possible. Thank you for your help in this endeavor.

**Christian Education:** Our Time and Talents survey shows folks are interested in an adult bible study program, and Alex McClung is interested in leading a study group. We imagine meeting 2x/month before church, but content, format, and timing are all TBD. Please contact Alex with your suggestions, interests, and best times: [akmcclungiii@gmail.com](mailto:akmcclungiii@gmail.com).

**Pastor-Parish Committee:** The Pastor-Parish Committee invites you to share your concerns, suggestions, and gratitude. We have a form in the Narthex and a lock-box that we will open weekly and we ask that you share your name and be specific. We look forward to reading your comments so that we can continue to grow into the body of Christ.

**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](mailto:springfieldpastor@gmail.com) for more information.

**Congregational Care / Mission & Outreach (CoCaMO):** 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).

**Prayers & Thanksgivings**

**~** Continued prayers for Sue Holmes’ mom, Betty Martlew, who fell and broke her hip and is recovering.

***Today:***

**Sunday October 30 – All Saints’ Day**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

12:00 noon Worship Committee Meeting

***This Week:***

**Wednesday November 2**

6:15 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Saturday November 5**

9:00 – 11:00 am Clean Up

***Looking Ahead:***

**Sunday November 6 – Stewardship Sunday**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Potluck Lunch

**Monday November 7**

7:00 pm HeadHuggers (Manse)

**Tuesday November 8**

7:00 pm CoCaMO Meeting (Manse)

**Wednesday November 9**

6:15 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Thursday November 10**

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Manse)

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

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**Clerk of Session:** Sharon Pappas

**Minister of Music:** Linda Caviglia

**Accompanist/Organist:** Aaron Thacker

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

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