**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**July 9, 2023 - 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!**

(Greetings and Announcements)

**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: When we come to this space, we bring all of ourselves.

**People: We bring joy and hope,**

Leader: Dreams and prayers,

**People: Grief and doubt,**

Leader: Memories and heartache.

**People: God meets us here.**

Leader: God hears our prayers and sees our scars.

**People: With open hearts and authenticity,**

**ALL: Let us worship our good and gracious God.**

**\*HYMN***Be Thou My Vision*  GTG #450

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my soul’s shelter, and thou my high tower;
Raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise;
Thou, mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: If we are honest with ourselves, we know that we are sometimes contributors of injustice and disunity. Whether we actively participate or look away in compliance, we are part of a story that does not exemplify God’s love. It isn’t easy to admit, nor to talk about, but we come before God and our community to atone for our sin, as we seek to be better stewards of God’s love and justice to the world. Let us pray:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**God of Creation, humanity is capable of such evil. Stories in scripture alongside stories on the news remind us of that truth all the time. For the moments when we choose violence over peace, exclusion over inclusion, and fear over hope – forgive us. When we choose pride over what is right, and comfort over justice – show us mercy. And when we numb our pain instead of leaning into empathy – unravel us, for we long to be changed. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Create in Me a Clean Heart*  Tune #422

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew the right spirit within me.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: When we atone for the ways in which we have not been light-bearers or peace-keepers, God is ready to forgive us.

**People: Thanks be to the God who takes our unraveling and mends us once again. Alleluia and amen!**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* (v. 3)

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide, strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning, new mercies I see. All I have needed thy hand hath provided. Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

**\* 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 Unending Surprises, this life is a tapestry of moments woven together, and we long to be weavers of love. Together we gather and pray that you would unravel our bias. Unravel our assumptions. Unravel whatever it is that keeps us from you. And as you do, clear space in our hearts for your Word. We are listening. We are praying. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 51:10-17*

10 Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. 11 Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. 13 Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you. 14 Deliver me from bloodshed, O God, O God of my salvation, and my tongue will sing aloud of your deliverance. 15 O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise. 16 For you have no delight in sacrifice; if I were to give a burnt-offering, you would not be pleased. 17 The sacrifice acceptable to God is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *2 Samuel 3:7; 21:1-14*

7Now Saul had a concubine whose name was Rizpah daughter of Aiah. And Ishbaal said to Abner, ‘Why have you gone in to my father’s concubine?’

21 Now there was a famine in the days of David for three years, year after year; and David inquired of the Lord. The Lord said, ‘There is blood-guilt on Saul and on his house, because he put the Gibeonites to death.’ 2So the king called the Gibeonites and spoke to them. (Now the Gibeonites were not of the people of Israel, but of the remnant of the Amorites; although the people of Israel had sworn to spare them, Saul

had tried to wipe them out in his zeal for the people of Israel and Judah.) 3David said to the Gibeonites, ‘What shall I do for you? How shall I make expiation, that you may bless the heritage of the Lord?’ 4The Gibeonites said to him, ‘It is not a matter of silver or gold between us and Saul or his house; neither is it for us to put anyone to death in Israel.’ He said, ‘What do you say that I should do for you?’ 5They said to the king, ‘The man who consumed us and planned to destroy us, so that we should have no place in all the territory of Israel— 6let seven of his sons be handed over to us, and we will impale them before the Lord at Gibeon on the mountain of the Lord.’ The king said, ‘I will hand them over.’ 7But the king spared Mephibosheth, the son of Saul’s son Jonathan, because of the oath of the Lord that was between them, between David and Jonathan son of Saul. 8The king took the two sons of Rizpah daughter of Aiah, whom she bore to Saul, Armoni and Mephibosheth; and the five sons of Merab daughter of Saul, whom she bore to Adriel son of Barzillai the Meholathite; 9he gave them into the hands of the Gibeonites, and they impaled them on the mountain before the Lord. The seven of them perished together. They were put to death in the first days of harvest, at the beginning of the barley harvest.

10Then Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth, and spread it on a rock for herself, from the beginning of harvest until rain fell on them from the heavens; she did not allow the birds of the air to come on the bodies by day, or the wild animals by night. 11When David was told what Rizpah daughter of Aiah, the concubine of Saul, had done, 12David went and took the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan from the people of Jabesh-gilead, who had stolen them from the public square of Beth-shan, where the Philistines had hung them up, on the day the Philistines killed Saul on Gilboa. 13He brought up from there the bones of Saul and the bones of his son Jonathan; and they gathered the bones of those who had been impaled. 14They buried the bones of

Saul and of his son Jonathan in the land of Benjamin in Zela, in the tomb of his father Kish; they did all that the king commanded. After that, God heeded supplications for the land.

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

 **All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**  *A Mother’s Radical Love* Rev. Becca Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\*HYMN** *For the Healing of the Nations* GTG #346

For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
For a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.

Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,
That, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.

All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned:
Pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span.

You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
For our growing in your likeness, bring the life of Christ to mind,
That by our response and service earth its destiny may find.

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

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

**\*** SONG OF THANKS *Let All Things Now Living* (v. 1) Tune #37

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days. God’s banners are o’er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go* GTG #833

O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe, that in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in thy sunshine’s blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

O Joy that seekest me through pain, I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

O Cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life’s glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Sometimes injustice provides an opportunity,

**People: For the people of Christ to rise up,**

Leader: To claim that love will always win,

**People: To actively work towards the freedom of all.**

Leader: Let us learn from Rizpah as we step out this week,

**People: To defend the defenseless and be witnesses to God’s care for all, this day and always. Amen.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

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

 Today 7/9 Next Week 7/16

Sunday Opener: Beth Oates Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters: Henry Halvorson Steve & Donna

 Bob Rogers Mazer

Lay Leader: Christy Yeager Tony Caviglia

**Sunday July 16, 2023 Lectionary**

Genesis 25:19-34; Psalm 119:105-112; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

**Announcements**

**Summertime and Fellowship is Easy!**

We love gathering after worship to catch up and share. We are in need of hosts July 16 through August 27. Remember, summer is easy! Cookies, crackers and drinks are always in the church kitchen. A sign-up sheet is on the refrigerator if you’d like to host or just sign up to bring something. Thanks to all our volunteers!!

Barbara Cornell, 240-308-0035

**Concert at Fairhaven:** Aaron Thacker will be playing show tunes and singing on Wednesday, **July 12** at 7:00 pm at Fairhaven. The event is free and everyone is welcome. For more information, please talk to Elizabeth Meirowitz.

**Vacation Bible School:** We are partnering with Mt. Hebron and Granite Presbyterian Churches in our VBS this summer, which will take place on Mt. Hebron’s campus from **July 17-21**. You can find out more information here: <https://vbspro.events/p/events/stellarbright>

**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.

**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).

***Today:***

 **Sunday July 9**

 10:30 am Worship

 11:30 am Fellowship

***Looking Ahead:***

 **Wednesday July 12**

7:00 pm Concert at Fairhaven

**Sunday July 16**

 10:30 am Worship

 11:30 am Fellowship

**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 Price

**Email:** springfieldpastor@gmail.com

**Clerk of Session:** Sharon Pappas

**Minister of Music:** Vacant

**Accompanist/Organist:** Aaron Thacker

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

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