**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**January 28, 2024 - 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: With hearts wide open, we enter this space together.

**People: We come with praise on our hearts, for the joy we have seen this week.**

Leader: We come with sorrow in our soul, asking for God’s merciful healing.

**People: We come with wonderings and questions, seeking to learn.**

Leader: We come with our fears, suspecting that we may need to change to live into the fullness of God’s call.

**People: We come with our hopes; hopes that God will show us new ways of being alive together.**

Leader: We come with our whole hearts, our whole selves,

**People: With joy, peace, hope, and love as our sacred song.**

Leader: And so, as we consider all these things, in the presence of our living God, let us come together, let our voices resound.

**People: Let us come with praise; let us worship God!**

**\*HYMN***What Is This Place* GTG #404

What is this place, where we are meeting?

Only a house, the earth its floor.

Walls and a roof, sheltering people, windows for light, an open door.

Yet it becomes a body that lives when we are gathered here,

And know our God is near.

Words from afar, stars that are falling.

Sparks that are sown in us like seed:

Names for our God, dreams, signs and wonders

Sent from the past are what we need.

We in this place remember and speak again what we have heard:

God’s free redeeming word.

And we accept bread at his table, broken and shared, a living sign.

Here in this world, dying and living, we are each other’s bread and wine.

This is the place where we can receive what we need to increase:

God’s justice and God’s peace.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: As humans, we can get caught up in our image, in our ways of seeking control, and in those irrational thoughts that tell us lies about ourselves and others. In our culture, we think of these things as the ‘demons we face’ – the struggles we carry, and often, those things not seen from our outward appearance. Yet, God’s love doesn’t stop at the front door – God’s deep love and care is for our whole selves – mind, body, and spirit. Knowing that, let us come to prayer, asking not only for forgiveness, but for help, trusting in God’s great love that can re-center us again. Let us pray:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Generous God, as we come before you this morning, we know that our physical bodies may not speak the truth of what is happening inside us. We feel the fragility of our souls – we know the falsehoods that we cling to, the control that we seek, and the pain**

**that we long to hide. We come before you, not in a state of guilt about those things, but rather we ask forgiveness for not asking for help sooner. We humbly ask for the help we need to be the most authentic, whole, human you long for us to be. We ask for your forgiveness for the ways in which those things have taken up space in our hearts, leaving you on the sidelines. Correct our ways, center our beings, and renew us again to full relationship with you, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE***Remember Not, O God*  Tune #430

O Lord, our Savior, Help, and glorify your name;

Deliver us from all our sins and take away our shame.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: The wisdom of the Spirit is within us, it calls us by name, it welcomes us home, and it tells us again and again the truth of God’s love. Let us name it together:

**ALL: We are forgiven. We are beloved. We are held. Thanks be to God. Alleluia, and Amen.**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy* 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.

**\* 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, you have given us your Word; a Word with a message that stays the same, but also changes moment by moment as it touches our lives. Help us to push away distractions, so we may listen more closely. Let us hear the words that need to speak to us today. May they move us, may they change us, may they make us more whole, as we seek to be your people, living out the Word today. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 111*

1 Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation. 2 Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them. 3 Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures for ever. 4 He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the Lord is gracious and merciful. 5 He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant. 6 He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations. 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy. 8 They are established for ever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.   
9 He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for ever. Holy and awesome is his name. 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures for ever.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Mark 1:21-28*

21They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. 22They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. 23Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, 24and he cried out, ‘What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.’ 25But Jesus rebuked him, saying, ‘Be silent, and come out of him!’ 26And the unclean spirit, throwing him into convulsions and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. 27They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, ‘What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.’ 28At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *Facing Our Fears*Rev. Becca Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\*HYMN** *Hear My Prayer, O God* GTG #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.

Hounded by a foe who crushed me to the ground,  
I am like the dead or those in prison bound.  
Hopeless, numbed by fear, I ponder all your care;  
Thirsty as parched earth, I lift my hands in prayer.

Answer soon, O God; my spirit faints in me;  
Do not hide your face, or I will cease to be.  
When the morning dawns, make known your love anew;  
Show me how to walk, for I will trust in you.

Keep me safe, O God, and help me learn your will;  
Let your Spirit lead through level pathways still.  
For your great Name’s sake, my griefs and fears dispel;  
Free me from my foes, that I may serve you well.

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

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

**\*** SONG OF THANKS *A Grateful Heart* Tune #652

A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering.

Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Live into Hope* GTG #772

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.

The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God’s own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity,

Removing shades of pride and fear, a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak the right to be,

The right to have one’s daily bread, to hear God’s word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.

God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: We go from this place empowered,

**People: Trusting that God’s wisdom is greater than our own.**

Leader: We face our fears and our deepest longings,

**People: With the knowledge that God will intercede.**

Leader: And as we do this, individually and collectively,

**People: We will embody God’s healing for the world.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

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

Today 1/28 Next Week 2/4

Sunday Opener: Linda Caviglia Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters: Alex & Brenda McClung Bob Rogers

Connie Gibbons

Lay Leader: Tim Oates Christy Yeager

Fellowship Host: Rebekah Schermer & Belle Vasbinder

Barbara Cornell

**Happy Birthday!** February 1 – Steve & Donna Mazer

**Sunday February 4, 2024 Lectionary**

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23;

Mark 1:29-39

**Announcements**

**Join Us For Fellowship:** Happy 2024 to everyone! Sunday worship is more meaningful when we gather at the Fellowship table to share and visit after worship. Have you volunteered to serve? A sign-up sheet is in the kitchen and if you are new to this, we are happy to pair you up. Maybe you would rather not host but want to bring something to celebrate a family occasion--there's a place on the sign-up sheet for that! Thank you to all who serve our church.

**Easter Flowers!** Easter is early this year! Please complete your flower order and submit to the Church Office on or before **February 4**!

**Inclement Weather:** If we feel the need to cancel in-person Worship, there will be a message on the Church answering machine, as well as on Facebook. You may also receive an email with that information.

***Today:***

**Sunday January 28**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

12:00 noon Nominating Committee Meeting (Library)

***This Week:***

**Wednesday January 31**

6:15 – 7:15 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Friday February 2**

4:00 pm Worship Committee Meeting (Zoom)

***Next Week:***

**Sunday February 4**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

3:00 pm Concert (Sanctuary)

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship (and Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays)

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/Accompanist:** Aaron Thacker

**Bell Choir Director:** Daria Dodonova

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

**Administrative Assistant:**Donna Mazer**e-mail:**[*spc.office@verizon.net*](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)