**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**July 14, 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: As we enter worship this morning, let us do so prayerfully, sharing these words of Howard Thurman together responsively. Lord, open unto me,

**People: Light for my darkness.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Courage for my fear.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Hope for my despair.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Peace for my turmoil.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Joy for my sorrow.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Strength for my weakness.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Wisdom for my confusion.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Forgiveness for my sins.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Love for my hates.**

Leader: Lord, open unto me,

**People: Thy Self for my self.**

Leader: In this prayerful spirit, let us come together to worship our God!

**\*HYMN** *God Welcomes All* (sing three times)GTG #399

God welcomes all, strangers and friends;

God’s love is strong and it never ends.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

This morning, we will hear the story of the prophet Amos, who speaks truth to power. He speaks in front of the king about a king’s responsibilities and that justice must prevail. I think many of us wish to be justice-bearers, but when the rubber meets the road, it can be intimidating and overwhelming. Let us come before God together, admitting the ways in which we have stood silent in the face of injustice, and allowing God to enter our hearts to reinvigorate our call to speak up when the Spirit leads. Let us pray together:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Generous and Loving God, we humbly acknowledge that there have been times in our lives where you have called us to speak up and speak the truth, yet we have remained silent. There are other times where we have been able to promote justice, even if our voice quivers. Help us, O God, to live into your call and be justice-bearers and peace-keepers. Guide us by your Holy Spirit, lead us beyond our own understanding, and give us wisdom in our words and actions so we may best proclaim your Kingdom, here on Earth. We pray this all in your holy name, Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me* GTG #438(v. 2)

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law’s demands.

Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,

All for sin could not atone. Thou must save, and thou alone.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**People: May the God of mercy who forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life. Alleluia, and Amen!**

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

GTG #435 (v. 2)

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**

God of Glory, prepare our hearts to accept your Word. Silence in us any voice but your own. By the power of your Spirit, grant us the wisdom to hear what we need to hear and to be empowered to serve you faithfully. Amen,

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 24* OT page 475

1 The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;   
2 for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? 4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. 5 They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. 7 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 8 Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. 9 Lift

up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Amos 7:7-15* OT page 806

7This is what he showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb-line, with a plumb-line in his hand. 8And the Lord said to me, ‘Amos, what do you see?’ And I said, ‘A plumb-line.’ Then the Lord said, ‘See, I am setting a plumb-line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by;   
9the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.’

10Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, ‘Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. 11For thus Amos has said, “Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.” ’ 12And Amaziah said to Amos, ‘O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; 13but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.’ 14Then Amos answered Amaziah, ‘I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, 15and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, “Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *The Plumb Line*Rev. Becca Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN**  *Seek Ye First* GTG #175

Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,

And all these things shall be added unto you.

Allelu, alleluia.

Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek, and you shall find;

Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you.

Allelu, alleluia.

You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word

That proceeds from the mouth of God.

Allelu, alleluia.

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

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

**\*** SONG OF THANKS  *Sing to God, with Joy and Gladness* GTG #657 (v. 1)

Sing to God, with joy and gladness, hymns and psalms of gratitude.

With the voice of praise discover that to worship God is good.

God unites the scattered people, gathers those who wandered far,

Heals the hurt and broken spirits, tending every wound and scar.

Sing to God, with joy and gladness, hymns and psalms of gratitude.

With the voice of praise discover that to worship God is good.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing* GTG #546

Lord, dismiss us with your blessing; fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
Let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us, traveling through this wilderness.

Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound;  
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

Savior, when your love shall call us, from our struggling pilgrim way,  
Let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** *[Micah 6:8]*

Leader: God has shown us what is good.

**People: What does the Lord require of us?**

Leader: To do justice,

**People: To love mercy,**

Leader: To walk humbly with our God,

**People: All the days of our life.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

**Sunday July 21, 2024 Lectionary**

2 Samuel 7:1-14a; Psalm 89:20-37; Ephesians 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

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

Today 7/14 Next Week 7/21

Sunday Opener: Linda Caviglia Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters: Steve & Donna Mazer Cynthia Smith

Elizabeth Meirowitz

Lay Leader: Mark Kearney Don Vasbinder

Fellowship Host: Diana Steppling Belle Vasbinder

**Happy Birthday!** July 21 – Ross Anderson

**Announcements**

**A Generous Congregation:** We recently got an acknowledgement for our gifts of $597 to the Christmas Joy Offering: $50 to Peace and Global Witness; and $555 to One Great Hour of sharing. "On behalf of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), please allow me to express our appreciation to you, your pastor, session, and congregation for your gracious and faithful support."

**Upcoming Events:** Please see the last page for a list of upcoming events. Mark your calendars!

***Today:***

**Sunday July 14**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

***Next Week:***

**Sunday July 21**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 am – 3 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 **Email:**[*spc.office@verizon.net*](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)