**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**July 21, 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** *[attributed to Francis of Assisi]*

Leader: As we join in worship today and consider the peace that God longs for in the world, let us join responsively in sharing a well-known prayer. Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

**People: Where there is hatred, let us sow love.**

Leader: Where there in injury, pardon;

**People: Where there is doubt, faith;**

Leader: Where there is despair, hope;

**People: Where there is darkness, light;**

Leader: Where there is sadness, joy.

**People: O Divine Master, grant that we may not seek so much to be consoled as to console,**

Leader: To be understood as to understand,

**People: To be loved as to love.**

Leader: For it is in giving that we receive,

**People: It is in pardoning that we are pardoned.**

Leader: As we move into our time of worship, let this be our prayer – to be a light among your Kingdom.

**People: Amen!**

**\*HYMN** *Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers* GTG #407

Spirit divine, attend our prayers, and make this house your home.
Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!

Come as the light. To us reveal our emptiness and woe.
And lead us in those paths of life where all the righteous go.

Come as the fire and purge our hearts like sacrificial flame.
Let our whole soul an offering be to our Redeemer's name.

Come as the dove and spread your wings, the wings of peaceful love.
And let the church on earth become blest as the church above.

Spirit divine, attend our prayers. Make a lost world your home.
Descend with all your gracious powers. O come, great Spirit, come!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Throughout Scripture, we hear of nations divided and kingdoms that have fallen. Yet, we also know God’s desire of unity, reconciliation, and peace throughout the Word as well. As we seek to move towards lives that better reflect the world God longs for us, let us confess the ways that we have fallen short of the call. Let us pray:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious and Loving God, in your merciful presence, we confess our sin and the sin of the world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and turn them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ. 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: Christ is our peace; those who are divided He has made one. He has broken down the barriers of separation by His death and has built us up into one body, with God. To all who repent and believe, He has promised reconciliation. So let us live as people reconciled.

**People: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! 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**

Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 120* OT page 539

1 In my distress I cry to the Lord, that he may answer me: 2 ‘Deliver me, O Lord, from lying lips, from a deceitful tongue.’ 3 What shall be given to you? And what more shall be done to you, you deceitful tongue? 4 A warrior’s sharp arrows, with glowing coals of the broom tree! 5 Woe is me, that I am an alien in Meshech, that I must live among the tents of Kedar. 6 Too long have I had my

dwelling among those who hate peace. 7 I am for peace; but when I speak, they are for war.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Ephesians 2:11-22* NT page 181

11So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called ‘the uncircumcision’ by those who are called ‘the circumcision’—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— 12remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. 13But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. 14For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. 15He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, so that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, 16and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. 17So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; 18for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. 19So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. 21In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; 22in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

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

 **All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *A New Humanity*Rev. Becca Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN**  *Sacred the Body* GTG #27

Sacred the body God has created, Temple of Spirit that dwells deep inside.

Cherish each person; nurture relation. Treat flesh as holy, that love may abide.

Bodies are varied, made in all sizes, pale, full of color; both fragile and strong.

Holy the difference, gift of the Maker, so let us honor each story and song.

Love respects persons, bodies and boundaries. Love does not batter, neglect, or abuse.

Love touches gently, never coercing. Love leaves the other with power to choose.

Holy of holies, God ever loving, make us your temples; in-dwell all we do.

May we be careful, tender and caring, so may our bodies give honor to you.

**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** *Go to the World!* GTG #295

Go to the world! Go into all the earth.

Go preach the cross where Christ renews life’s worth,

Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go the world! Go into every place.

Go live the word of God’s redeeming grace.

Go seek God’s presence in each time and space. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray;

The nights of tears give way to joyous day.

As servant church, you follow Christ’s own way. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,

For I am with you till the age shall end,

When all the hosts of glory cry “Amen!” Alleluia. Alleluia.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Go out into the world in peace:

**People: We will have courage,**

Leader: We will hold onto what is good,

**People: We will return no one evil for evil.**

Leader: We will help the suffering and honor all.

**People: And in all we do, we will love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the Holy Spirit.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

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

 Today 7/21 Next Week 7/28

Sunday Opener: Ron Holmes Bob Rogers

Ushers/Greeters: Cynthia Smith Tim & Beth Oates

 Elizabeth Meirowitz

Lay Leader: Mark Kearney Max Carroll

Fellowship Host: Belle Vasbinder Christy Yeager

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

 July 22 – Brian Spicer

 July 23 – Lindsay Chaplik

 July 24 – Becca Price

 July 26 – Stephanie Izaguirre

**Sunday July 28, 2024 Lectionary**

2 Samuel 11:1-15; Psalm 14; Ephesians 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

**Announcements**

**Christmas in July:** Please join us at 5:00 pm on **July 25** outside of French Twist and walk Main Street as we celebrate Christmas in July in downtown Sykesville.

***Today:***

 **Sunday July 21**

10:30 am Worship

 11:30 am Fellowship

***This Week:***

 **Thursday July 25**

5:00 – 7:00 pm Christmas in July (downtown Sykesville)

 **Saturday July 27**

7:00 pm Family Game Night (Fellowship Room)

***Next Week:***

**Sunday July 28**

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*