**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**October 6, 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: If you are hungry,

**People: There is room at God’s table.**

Leader: If you are weary,

**People: There is a seat saved for you.**

Leader: If you dream of belonging,

**People: Know that you belong here.**

Leader: From north, south, east, and west,

**People: God invites us home.**

**ALL: Let us worship God!**

**\*HYMN** *In Christ There is No East or West* GTG #318

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,

But one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;

His service is the golden cord closebinding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate’er your face may be.

All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.

All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: Family of Faith, no matter what your week has looked like, no matter what you carry with you into this space, Jesus is always going to invite you to the table. That’s the amazing thing about God’s love – it does not keep score, and it knows no end. So join me in the prayer of confession, not because you have to, but because you can. Join me in the prayer of confession, trusting that with these words, God is already inviting you into deeper faith. Let us pray:

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Creator God, we hear your invitation to love our neighbors as ourselves, to live like we belong to one another. And yet, what is out of sight is often out of mind. Forgive us for training our hearts to focus only on what is in front of us. Forgive us for ignoring the tie that binds us to all of creation. Forgive us for assuming that you being with us means you can’t be with others too. Our gaze has been too narrow. Open our hearts. Expand our understanding. Help us to celebrate the many places you are present in this world. Remind us of the ties that bind us to all of creation. With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *O Come Unto the Lord* GTG #416(v. 3)

O come unto the Lord; O come back to the Lord.

No matter how burdened and how beaten you may be,

The Lord will comfort you greatly with hands that touch and heal.

Come unto Christ, who loves you so.

Please come home; please come back home.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Family of faith, I don’t know what this last week has looked like for you, but I do know this: there is a seat at God’s table saved for you. And that is the case even if you overlooked your neighbor, even if you doubted God’s love for you, even if you chose scarcity over abundance, or fear over joy. God has a seat saved for you. Trusting this good news, join me in the words of forgiveness:

**People: We are known. We are loved. We are forgiven. We begin again. Thanks be to God for a love like that. Alleluia and amen!**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Peace of God Be with You* GTG #448

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you.

Sa-laam, sa-laam. Peace of God be with you.

**\* 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**

Nourishing God, open up something new in us. Open up curiosity or hunger. Open up attentiveness or compassion. Open up the parts of our hearts that need your centering Word most. And then, like yeast in bread, may your love expand in us. We are listening. We are hopeful. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Acts 2:42-47* NT page 112

42They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. 43Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. 44All who believed were together and had all things in common; 45they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. 46Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, 47praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *1 Corinthians 1:10-17* NT page 155

10Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you should be in agreement and that there should be no divisions among you, but that you should be united in the same mind and the same purpose. 11For it has been reported to me by Chloe’s people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. 12What I mean is that each of you says, ‘I belong to Paul’, or ‘I belong to Apollos’, or ‘I belong to Cephas’, or ‘I belong to Christ.’ 13Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? 14I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, 15so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. 16(I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.) 17For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel, and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *Koinonia*Rev. Becca Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *For Everyone Born* GTG #769

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead,

**Refrain:**  
And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace: yes, God will delight when we are creators  
of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man, a place at the table,  
revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
for woman and man, a system that's fair, **[Refrain]**

For young and for old, a place at the table,  
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
for young and for old, the right to belong, **[Refrain]**

For just and unjust, a place at the table,  
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,  
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,  
for just and unjust, a new way to live, **[Refrain]**

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
for everyone born, the right to be free, **[Refrain]**

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**World Communion Sunday**

## **INVITATION**

## **THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

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

[The Pastor continues… “…who forever sing to the glory of your name.”]

**IN PRAISE OF GOD** Tune #552

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of Power and might.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

[The Pastor continues… “…proclaim the one crucified and risen.”]

**IN PRAISE OF CHRIST** Tune #553

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

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

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE MEAL**

**CLOSING PRAYER** (Unison)

**Holy God, Every time we come to this table, we look for you. We come looking for welcome, looking for reasons to hope. And just as you promised, you have met us here. What a gift! We may never be the same.**

**So as we prepare to leave this place, may we go with the memories of this holy meal clinging to us. May we remember what it felt like to be welcomed to your table, and may we welcome others with that same warmth. May we remember what it felt like to have a meal where all were fed, and may we work for a world where none are hungry. May we remember what it felt like to draw closer to you, and may we continually seek you out with all that we do. Feeding God, week after week we look for you. Week after week, you meet us here. Thank you. May we never be the same. Alleluia and amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

**\*** SONG OF THANKS  *In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful* GTG #654

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful; in the Lord, I will rejoice.

Look to God; do not be afraid. Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

Lift up your voices; the Lord is near.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *We Are Marching in the Light of God* GTG #853

We are marching in the light of God;

We are marching in the light of God.

We are marching in the light of God;

We are marching in the light of, the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,

We are marching in the light of, the light of God.

We are marching, marching, we are marching, marching,

We are marching in the light of God.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Family of faith, as you love this place, may we leave hungry,

**People: Hungry for justice.**

Leader: May we leave hopeful,

**People: Hopeful for the day when we will return to God’s table.**

Leader: And may you leave knowing, deep in your bones, that nothing can separate us from the love of God.

**People: For no matter where we go,**

Leader: From the north, south, east, or west,

**People: The God of Creation has a seat for us all.**

Leader: Go, and love likewise.

**People: Alleluia and amen.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

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

Today 10/6 Next Week 10/13

Sunday Opener: Beth Oates Ron Holmes

Ushers/Greeters: Sharon Pappas Elizabeth Meirowitz

Don Vasbinder Brenda McClung

Lay Leader: Alex McClung Tony Caviglia

Fellowship Host: Diana Steppling Christy Yeager

Communion Servers: 1. Barbara Cornell 4. Barbara Nickell

2. Mark Kearney 5. Beth Oates

3. Sharon Pappas

**Happy Birthday!** October 13 – Joy Barwick

October 13 – Ron Holmes

**Sunday October 13, 2024 Lectionary**

Job 23:1-9, 16-17; Psalm 22:1-15; Hebrews 4:12-16; Mark 10:17-31

**Announcements**

**Women’s Group:** Our new Women's Group will kick off **TODAY**. We will meet after worship in a corner of the Fellowship Room (just to make sure everyone can have good food, too!). This meeting is an invitation to create a Women's Group that benefits us all—from creating times of fellowship, discussion, Bible Study, and more. Come join us as we begin this adventure together!

**Blessing of the Pets:** We will gather in the church parking lot for a Blessing of the Pets **TODAY** at 1 pm. If it is raining, the blessing will move to **October 13.** If you cannot bring your pet to the parking lot, please let Pastor Becca know, and she will arrange an at-home blessing for your pet.

**Hurricane Helene Response:** In the last few days, as we've watched the footage and heard stories from the Southeast, it can be easy to be disheartened by the lives lost and displaced by the storm. As Christians, this critical question always resounds, "How do we help?" Additionally, what can we do that is meaningful and that speaks to the Spirit being alive among us and through us?

I have found a few tangible ways we can respond:

1. Write a check to Springfield Pres, but add to the memo line 'PDA or Presbyterian Disaster Assistance - Helene.'

2. We can also help by donating towards the PCUSA 'Gifts of the Heart' kits. They need clean-up kits. Each kit costs 75 dollars (plus a $3 fee for processing). The kits can be found here: <https://pda.pcusa.org/page/kits/#bucket>. If you want to donate towards a clean-up kit, please write a check to Springfield Pres and add to the memo line, 'Clean Up Kit.'

In the days and months ahead, we will hear of different ways to help our neighbors, and I hope to share more ways to be the hands and feet of Christ in our world. - Pastor Becca

**Chat and Chew:** It’s Rincon time again! What are your afternoon plans on **October 27**? Why not join us for a fun and relaxing lunch opportunity! Fill your

belly with delicious food and your heart with great conversations. The atmosphere and service is great, and separate checks make it so simple. The restaurant is only 5 minutes from church. If you are interested, please sign up on the clipboard in the Fellowship Room. Rincon Grill, 577 Johnsville Road, Eldersburg on **October 27** at 1:00 pm. Hope to see you there! You’ll be glad you came.

***Today:***

**Sunday October 6**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship / Women’s Group Info Meeting

1:00 pm Blessing of Pets

***This Week:***

**Monday October 7**

7:00 pm HeadHuggers (Manse)

**Wednesday October 9**

6:15 – 7:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:45 – 9:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Thursday October 10**

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Manse)

***Next Week:***

**Sunday October 13**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

**Tuesday October 15**

7:00 pm CoCaMO (Manse)

**Wednesday October 16**

6:16 – 7:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:45 – 9:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

**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)