



**Stone Church of Willow Glen
Presbyterian Church (USA)
San José, California**

**October 6, 2024 – 9:30 a.m.
Word Communion Sunday**

The Preparation for the Word

*Before worship, speak with God. During worship, let God speak to you.
After worship, speak with those around you.*

Chimes

Prelude

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

*Paul Manz (1919-2009)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell, Transitional Pastor

Introit

“It is a Good Thing”

*Kenneth Kosche
Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director*

***Call to Worship**

Come, all who are seeking a deeper sense of meaning beyond the noise of wealth and possessions.

We gather, longing for a life rich in love, justice, and compassion.

Jesus calls us away from the pursuit of material abundance, toward a life rooted in God's grace and generosity.

We come, ready to let go of what binds us and embrace what truly gives life.

In a world that says “more is better,” we turn to God, who reminds us that love, peace, and community are the treasures that endure.

Together, we seek to be rich toward God and one another, building a world of equity, kindness, and care.

Let us open our hearts and minds to the wisdom of Christ, who invites us to live abundantly in faith and service.

We come to worship the God who calls us to a new way of living.

***Opening Hymn #281** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah”

1
Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

3
When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.

2
Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

***Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession

We come to confession not out of fear, but with a desire to be honest before God. In a world that values wealth and power, we confess the ways we have strayed from love and justice. Trusting in God's grace, let us open our hearts to transformation as we confess together.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we come before you, acknowledging the ways we have allowed greed, fear, and materialism to cloud our hearts and minds.

We confess that we often place our trust in wealth and possessions, seeking security in things that will not last.

We cling to what we have, forgetting that true abundance comes from relationships, love, and service to others.

Forgive us when we prioritize personal gain over the needs of our neighbors and your call to justice.

We confess our tendency to store up treasures for ourselves rather than being rich toward you, O God, and toward those in need.

Open our hearts to the life you desire for us—a life of generosity, compassion, and community.

Help us to release our grip on the things that do not satisfy and to seek instead your kingdom, where love and justice reign.

Renew us, O God, that we might live lives of faithful stewardship, embodying the values of your kingdom.

In the name of the One who calls us to follow, we pray. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: In Christ, we are forgiven and set free to live lives of grace and generosity.

Thanks be to God.

***The Passing of the Peace**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

We Listen To God's Word

The First Lesson *Psalm 71:1-6 (O.T., p. 532)*

In you, O Lord, I take refuge; let me never be put to shame. In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me; incline your ear to me and save me. Be to me a rock of refuge, a strong fortress, to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked, from the grasp of the unjust and cruel. For you, O Lord, are my hope, my trust, O Lord, from my youth. Upon you I have leaned from my birth; it was you who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.

Anthem *"Locus Iste"* Anton Bruckner (1824-1896)
Lyrics - This place was made by God, an inestimably holy place.

The Second Lesson *Luke 12: 13-21 (N.T., p. 74)*

Someone in the crowd said to him, 'Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.' But he said to him, 'Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?' And he said to them, 'Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.' Then he told them a parable: 'The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?" "Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry. "But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?" So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.'

Sermon *"Fool's Gold"* Rev. Fred Harrell

Prayers of the People

We Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

Friends, God has been generous with us, so let us now return to God a portion of what has been given to our care.

Offertory *"O God, Thou Faithful God"* Paul Manz (1919-2009)

***Dedication of the People and Their Gifts Hymn #592**

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.***

***Prayer of Dedication**

God, you are the giver of every good gift. Accept these offerings we pray, that through them we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our Savior and our God. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion servers ~Maureen Chandler, Dick Kistler, Lizanne Oliver

Invitation to the Table

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

...Therefore, with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name, evermore praising you and singing:

SANCTUS

Karl Digerness, 2012

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est!
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est!

© 2012 Karl Digerness Music

...Great is the mystery of the faith.

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

...And now as Christ has taught us, we pray together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***Sharing the Bread & Cup**

Prayer after Communion

God of Kindness, we have broken your bread and received your life. By the power of your Spirit keep us always in your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

***Closing Hymn #422** *"God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"*

1
*God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store--
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door--
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious Donor of our days.*

2
*Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.*

3
*Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace
conferred,
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.*

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

"Toccata on Deo Gratias"

Richard K. Biggs (1886-1962)

***Those who are able may rise in body or spirit.**

Original bulletin art created by Willow Glen Artist **Lynden Keith Johnson**.

Thank You...

ASL ~

Deacon Greeters ~ Chris Nilson

Ushers ~ Dhar Blackwood & Hilleguus Faber

Communion Prep ~ Jeanette Rapp, Jodi Lax, Derk & Mary Johnson

Floral ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

Sound ~ Stan Searing

Zoom ~

The Stone Church of Willow Glen PC(USA)

1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose, CA 95125

Office Hours M-F 9am - 1pm

1 (408) 269 - 1593

www.stonechurch.org

Pastor's day off: Friday

If you're interested in becoming a member of
Stone Church, please contact the office
(office_manager@stonechurch.org)

*The Stone Church of Willow Glen acknowledges that the land on which we worship this morning is the
unceded land of the Muwekma Ohlone people.*

During October, Buildings & Grounds (B&G) and friends
are serving coffee & refreshments after worship.

All are invited!

Welcome Guests and Visitors! We hope you already feel at home among us here at Stone Church. The nearest **restroom** is located between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall; exit thru the double doors at the front of the Sanctuary (near the TV). Everyone is invited for **refreshments** and fellowship in the Social Hall and on the patio after worship. We welcome the sound of any little ones during worship, but if your baby (age 0-3) gets too wiggly for you, you may take them to the **Nursery**, located in the hallway between the Sanctuary and the Social Hall. It's open each Sunday for children ages 0-3.

Children's Church School – Children meet in the Fireside Room (stone building on the other side of the Social Hall). Children will come to the sanctuary to participate in Communion.

Each Week, Stone Church Invites You to share Holy Communion. We use the intinction method, dipping the bread in the cup—amber is juice, dark red is wine. When the time comes, we will process down the center aisle; take bread (in cup or cut – gluten free avail) and dip; the server will say a few words; partake of the moistened bread; return to your seat by the side aisles.

October Adult Ed - (11am SA) – **Today**, Rev. Sharon LeClaire will have a discussion on grief. All of us go through our grief work at some time in our lives. She'll talk about grief as it is in our culture and scripture, with time for questions and sharing.

Next Week - Oct 13th - **The League of Women Voters** will review four ballot propositions & they want to know which ones you'd like to discuss. **Please send Bob Cole (famcole@pacbell.net) the top four (4) props you'd like reviewed and he will send them onto the LWV.**

In 2 Weeks - Oct 20th - Bob Fraser discusses Part II of his becoming more pagan.

In 3 Weeks - Oct 27th - **The Paradise Notebooks** - A reading by, and conversation with, local author [Richard J. Neve](#), & special guest, singer-songwriter [Deborah Levoy](#).

First Sunday SHCS Donations – **Today**, the First Sunday of the month, we collect and donate items for Sacred Heart Community Services. Our food & goods collection baskets are available in the Narthex to gather donated items. If you missed bringing something today, consider bringing some of these items next month - pop-top cans and other packaged food items (no homemade food); gently used or new blankets and linens; hygiene items of unopened toothpaste, shampoo, deodorant, toothbrushes, etc.; diapers (both infant and adult); unopened infant formula; new socks, new underwear for men, women and children; and gently used or new sleeping bags.

Glory to God Hymnals - Back in 2004 the PCUSA authorized research into creating a new hymnal, and in 2008 they formed a committee to study other denominations' hymnals, global music, and contemporary trends. This committee anonymously reviewed new submissions and selected hymns based on various factors, including hymns that addressed new topics or filled gaps. This new PCUSA hymnal, **Glory to God**, was published in 2013.

Stone looked into purchasing a set of these new hymnals. Based on the small selection of sample hymns provided by the PCUSA, the committee decided not to purchase at that time.

Fast forward to today: many of the Glory to God hymns are preferred by pastors, and so, are used each week during worship. Without the actual hymnals, the songs are printed as separate inserts; so to simplify, save paper, and declutter the bulletins, the Worship Committee voted unanimously to submit a hymnal purchase proposal to Session, which was approved in September.

The hymnals have been ordered, and over the next few weeks they will be added to the pews in addition to our blue hymnals.

The Glory to God Hymnal includes:

- ★ Over 800 hymns, psalms, and spiritual songs.
- ★ Approximately 50% of the hymns are from the blue 1990 Presbyterian hymnal. The remaining pieces are from former Presbyterian hymnals, other denominational song-books, and individual authors and composers.

- ★ A musical setting of almost every Lectionary psalm.
- ★ Music from six different continents.
- ★ Music covering all major historical and contemporary sacred genres, including approx. thirty-five African American/Gospel hymns.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering will be taken today; an envelope is provided in your bulletin. Your gift enables our denomination, the Presbyterian Church (USA), to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world.

Individual congregations are encouraged to use up to 25% of this offering for peacemaking efforts that align with their passion. This year our Stone Works Committee voted to send our portion to [Covenant Presbyterian Church](#) (PCUSA) in Springfield, Ohio. They are a welcoming, affirming congregation (whose Pastor went to McCormick Seminary with Rev Irene Pak Lee) of people from all over the United States, Haiti, Ukraine, Central and South America. Their city has been made more dangerous by political rhetoric, so our donation will be used by their mission committee to support efforts toward local peace.

Hurricane Helene Relief - Presbyterian Disaster Assistance offers a way for us to quickly provide relief (over time) to those impacted by disasters. The dangerous category 4 hurricane Helene caused devastating damage and loss of life in Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Tennessee. With the storm surge, wind damage, and flooding, it is crucial to have the necessary resources to support the many communities that are affected. Your generous gifts will bring hope and encouragement.

PDA is in communication with all affected presbyteries and National VOAD (Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster) to share information and coordinate resources as damage is assessed.

PDA's director has created a prayer for those impacted.

<https://pda.pcusa.org/pda/resource/helene-prayer/>

To learn more about PDA's response, or to donate, go to

<https://pda.pcusa.org/situation/hurricane-helene/>

Enneagram Workshop - Sat, Nov 9th (1-4 pm) *A Journey of Self Discovery with the Enneagram*
Join us for a transformative 3-hour workshop designed to help you see yourself more clearly, moving beyond surface behaviors to explore the deeper motivations that shape your life. Using the Enneagram as a guide, we'll journey through understanding both the gifts and challenges of our personalities as they relate to living a life of love and service.

This workshop invites you to recognize the ways in which your unique personality may support or hinder your ability to be a loving presence in the world, offering insights into how faith and self-awareness come together to deepen your connection with God and others. Whether you're familiar with the Enneagram or just beginning to explore, this workshop is for anyone seeking to grow in self-awareness, compassion, and spiritual maturity.

RSVP to the office with number attending (office_manager@stonechurch.org)

\$25 suggested donation; can be paid in advance or day of the event – list “workshop” with payment

Workshop Leader: [Kirsten Oates](#) - Best known as the co-host of [The Turning to the Mystics podcast](#), where she, alongside renowned spiritual teacher James Finley, draws upon ancient wisdom teachers to offer guidance for navigating the complexities of the modern world.

With over two decades of experience across the for-profit and non-profit sectors, she has held strategic roles at Bain & Company, The Bridgespan Group, and the Center for Action and Contemplation.

A certified Spiritual Director, QiGong Instructor, and trained in Somatic Experiencing, Kirsten holds a Bachelor of Laws with Honours and a Bachelor of Economics from the Australian National University.

The Liturgical Arts group always welcomes new helping hands to their monthly meeting on the “2nd Friday”. **This coming Fri, Oct 11th** (1:30 to 4 PM) downstairs in Room 1. Steady (but non-sewing) hands would be great to help prepare for Advent decorations. Ring the patio doorbell for entrance and stay as long as you can.

Rebuilding Party – For 10 years, the Men’s Mission & Ministry group has worked with Rebuilding Together Silicon Valley (RTSV), participating in 8-10 Rebuilding Days. Some were fun days, and some were interesting and challenging, but all were rewarding. The homes worked on were largely those of low income, seniors, and immigrants who might not have been able to stay in their homes without the help; and the owners were always deeply thankful.

As a thank you to all who have helped over this last decade, Bill Ribble is inviting all RSTV veterans to his home (1531 Altamont Ave, SJ) for snacks and drinks, **this coming Sat, Oct 12th** (2:30 - 5:30pm). Enjoy some fellowship and reminisce about the fun (and sometimes hair-raising) times! **Please RSVP to Bill** (bill@ribble.net).

TrailWalkers - Sat, Oct 26th we’ll meet on the church patio and carpool to the Greystone parking area for a round-trip walk along the Los Alamitos Creek trail (paved, easy, about 3 miles) to Almaden Lake. All are welcome. RSVP to Kathy (kathystark.4@gmail.com).

Halloween at Stone - In Willow Glen, Halloween is a big deal, and this year Stone Church is going to take part! Volunteers are needed to help hand out candy, refreshments, and provide a place for tired trick-or-treaters (and their parents!) to rest and use the restroom (2-hour shifts from 4-9pm). This is a great opportunity for Stone Church to be present during a big community night! Sign up to help at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E44ABA92BA7F58-51395533-stone#/>

Friday’s Email includes the upcoming Sunday’s online bulletin, mentions some of the information in this insert, as well as other interesting information. A few of the things this week: a thank you to Claudia Hamm and Kate Wheatley; October’s expanded list of Adult Ed; and what’s happening in Children’s Church School this week. There are also links to the church directory, Session minutes, StoneWorks’ partner information and much more. Keep abreast of what’s going on, get involved, and stay connected. To receive church updates, email the office and ask to be added to the email list, (office_manager@stonechurch.org).

Social Media - Do you have something that you think Stone Church should be promoting or talking about on social media? Now there's an easy way to let us know! Just e-mail socialmedia@stonechurch.org, and we'll get right on it! Remember that pictures are always helpful; send them along, if available! This email address will also be listed each week on the reverse of this insert.

Halloween Concert - Stone's Treasurer, Ruthanne, has put together another great group of musicians for *A Magical Brew of Musical Stew*. **This coming Sat, Oct 12th** (2:30pm), all are invited to Saratoga Federated Church (20390 Park Pl, Saratoga).

A Season of Peace - Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) designates Sep 8th thru **today** - World Communion Sunday - as “A Season of Peace.” The Liturgical Arts group has recognized this season with a mobile display of colorful cranes, which honor the diversity of our culture which can come together to make peace. The white cranes remember the twelve-year-old Sadako Sasaki of Hiroshima, who famously completed her goal of folding 1000 “peace cranes” before dying of leukemia in 1955.



October 6 – 13, 2024

Sunday (10/6) World Communion Sunday
 8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
 9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion - SA & Zoom
 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
 11am - 12pm Adult Ed - SA
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SA

Monday (10/7)
 9:30 - 11:30am OMG - Conf.Room
 4 - 7:30pm Vivace - SH
 6 - 7:30pm Vivace SA
 7:30pm B&F - Zoom

Tuesday (10/8)
 11:30am - 1pm PW Lunch Bunch - Taiwan Rest.
 12:30 - 3pm Library Work - Conf.Room
 7:15 - 9pm P&A - Zoom

Wednesday (10/9)
 4:30 - 6:15pm Vivace - SH
 7:30 - 9pm Choir Practice - SH

Thursday (10/10)
 9:30am - 12pm PWCT - Conf.Room
 5 - 8pm Vivace - SH
 5 - 8pm Vivace - SH
 7 - 9pm M&C - Zoom

Friday (10/11)
 9:30 - 11am Caregivers' Support - Conf.Room
 1:30 - 4pm Liturgical Arts - Room 1

Saturday (10/12)
 9am - 4pm Vivace Directors' Mtg - SH

Next Sunday (10/13)
 8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
 9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion - SA & Zoom
 10:30 - 11am Anointing & Prayer - SA
 10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
 11am - 12pm Adult Ed - SA
 5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SA
 5 - 7pm Youth Group - Service Project

OCTOBER Birthdays - (1st) Sarah Ciccarello; (2nd) Jeff Mattan & Elvet Moore; (3rd) Wayne Martin & Diana Boydston; (7th) Suzy Brooks, Shannon Bayatpur & Judi Kaiser; (8th) Jay Evans; (14th) Megan Ritchie; (17th) Paul Viitanen; (20th) Sean Coleman & Christy Wait; (21st) Martha Duke; (25th) Scott Nelson & Jenny Kromm; (26th) Alice McNelis, Victor Perez; (27th) Leila Summers; (28th) Steve Ciccarello; (29th) Fred Oliver, Nancy Shearer, & Amity Bateman; (30th) Claire Ribble.

OCTOBER Anniversaries - Dawn & Lionel Predium (10/8/06); Chris Coleman & Marta Espinal (10/9/99); Bill & Mike Raby-Brown (10/19/13); Fran & Bob Cole (10/20/79); Nancy & Leroy Kromm (10/23/82); Fran Basso & Julia Kraemer (10/31/14)

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Jeremy Easton Mel Goertz Jeff Mattan	Maureen Chandler Ruth McCreath Steve Nelson Stan Searing Caryl Westerberg	Judi Kaiser Jodi Lax Matthew Marcotte Marsha Wadley
The Board of Deacons		
Moderator ~ Janice Goertz (janicegoertz@gmail.com)		
Class of 2025	Class of 2026	Class of 2027
Gail Chaid Sheri Cunningham Janice Goertz Chris Nilson Laraine Pitcher	Neil Coleman Marta Espinal Kerry House-Nelson Karen Wessels	Mary Jo Blazek Jim Hagan Mary Ann Hudson Jenny Pichon Dorothy Rowe
Nominating Committee		
Chair ~ Ruth McCreath (rdmccreath@aol.com)		
Class of 2025		Class of 2026
Derk Johnson Lizanne Oliver		Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith

Rev. Fred Harrell – Transitional Pastor
 fred@stonechurch.org

Rev. Dr. David McCreath – Parish Associate
 rovinrev@gmail.com

Rev. Marge Palmer – Pastor Emerita

Nancy Kromm – Choir Director
 nancy_kromm@stonechurch.org

Barbara Vella – Organist
 barbvella2@gmail.com

Peggy Spool – Children’s Choir Director

Amber Biscardi – Church School Administrator
 (Interim)
 amber_biscardi@stonechurch.org

Jennifer Scott-Brand – Office & Facility Manager
 office_manager@stonechurch.org

Ruthanne Martinez – Treasurer
 treasurer@stonechurch.org

ASL Interpreter Coordinator
 stonechurch.stephfoisy@gmail.com

Liliana Borda – Nursery Supervisor

Victor & Sonia Perez – Custodians

Hilleguus Faber – Memorial Coordinator

Lizanne Oliver – Wedding Coordinator

Mary Johnson - Parish Nurse

Men’s Mission & Ministry (MMM) – Bill Ribble
 bill@ribble.net

Prayer Chain Coordinator – Mary-Ann Hudson
majm.hudson@gmail.com

Presbyterian Women – Sheri Cunningham
shericnngm@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry Coordinator – Michele Smith
michelesmith801@comcast.net

StoneCares – Stonecares@stonechurch.org

Web Master - Jody Meacham - jtmjr@pacbell.net

Social Media - socialmedia@stonechurch.org