



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

**April 20, 2025 - 9:30 a.m.
Easter**

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

“Canzon Duodecimi Toni”

*Giovanni Gabrieli (1557-1612)
featuring brass and organ*

“Laudate Dominum”

*Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791),
featuring Karen Thielen, Harp, and Evan Fine, violin
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell

Introit

“Fanfare for Easter”

*Jane M. Marshall (1924-2019)
Stone Church Chancel Choir; Nancy Kromm, Director*

***Call to Worship**

Emily Meacham, Liturgist

Early on the first day of the week, as the sun began to rise, the women came to the tomb, filled with grief and love. But the stone was rolled away, and the tomb was empty. Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Death has lost its sting; life has won its victory.

In our moments of doubt and fear, when the world feels dark, we gather in hope, knowing that new life is possible. We are not alone, for Christ walks with us. Let us come with joy and wonder.

We come to celebrate the resurrection, to be made new in Christ’s love and grace.
Let us worship the One who has overcome the grave, and who calls us to rise with Him, to bring love, peace, and justice into the world.

Alleluia! Christ is risen! We are risen with Him!

***Opening Hymn #248** “Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!”

1

*Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna!
Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder:
All creation is amazed.
In the desert all surrounding,
see a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding
Bring a taste of love unknown.*

3

*Christ is risen! Earth and heaven
Nevermore shall be the same.
Break the bread of new creation
Where the world is still in pain
Tell its grim demonic chorus:
“Christ is risen! Get you gone!”
God the first and last is with us
Sing Hosanna, everyone!*

2

*Christ is risen! Raise your spirits
From the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning
See what love can do and care
Drink the wine of resurrection
Not a servant but a friend.
Jesus is our strong companion
Joy and peace shall never end.*

***Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession

On this Easter morning, we come before God, with hearts that are both full of joy and mindful of our failings. We have witnessed resurrection, but we still stumble in our walk. We have known love, but we still harbor fear and division.

In this moment, let us bring our whole selves to God, trusting in the grace that is greater than all our brokenness.

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we have not lived fully into the new life you offer. We have held onto old wounds, closed ourselves off from forgiveness, and failed to love others as you love us. Forgive us, restore us, and help us to rise with Christ into a future of compassion, justice, and hope.

In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news of Easter: In Christ, we are forgiven and made new. The stone has been rolled away, and the tomb is empty— death does not have the final word. Because Christ lives, we live.

Thanks be to God! We are forgiven, we are free, and we rise to new life in Christ.

***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

Isaiah 25:6-9 (O.T., p. 652)

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death for ever. Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Anthem

"Joy to the Heart"

K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)

Children's Sermon

Amber Biscardi, Church School Administrator

(Children return to sit with their parents)

The Second Lesson

Mark 16:1-8 (N.T., p. 54)

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Sermon

"The Wilderness of Resurrection"

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

"Meditation" from Thais

*Jules Massenet (1842-1912),
featuring Karen Thielen Harp; Evan Fine, violin*

***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**

Risen Christ, we offer ourselves to you this Easter. Use our hearts, hands, and voices to share your love and bring peace to the world. May our lives reflect your resurrection power, and may we serve with hope and joy.

In your name we pray. Amen.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Communion servers ~ Sheri Cunningham, Emily Meacham

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

**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!

...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

Communion Music

*“Sanctus” from Gabriel Fauré Requiem; Gabriel Fauré (1845-1924),
Karen Thielen, harp; Evan Fine, violin; Barbara Vella, organ; Chancel Choir, Nancy Kromm, Director*

Prayer after Communion

Risen Christ, we thank you for this holy meal, which nourishes us with your presence and love. As we have received new life in you, send us out to live as witnesses of your resurrection, bringing hope, peace, and justice to the world. May your Spirit empower us to live fully for you, today and always.

In your name we pray. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

*Closing Hymn #245

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today!”

arr. Vaclav Nelhybel (1919-1996)

1
*"Christ the Lord is risen today!" Alleluia!
All creation, join to say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

2
*Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Him rise; Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!*

3
*Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save; Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!*

4
*Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to You by both be given; Alleluia!
Every knee to You shall bow, Alleluia!
Risen Christ, triumphant now. Alleluia!*

*Charge and Benediction

Choral Postlude

*“I’ll Be on My Way”
“Hallelujah Chorus”*

*Shawn Kirchner (b. 1972)
Georg Frederic Handel (1685-1759)*

Vern Tegger, soloist; Evan Fine, violin, Karen Theilen, Harp; Leroy Kromm, piano; Chancel Choir

Feel free to depart quietly. Please be mindful of those enjoying the postlude

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

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

Artist’s note; For my Lenten discipline, this year, I have chosen words (with backgrounds inspired by these words) which we might meditate with, concentrate on, and spend some time considering as they relate to ourselves, our church, our nation, and our world. **IMAGINE**

ASL Interpreter ~ Hannah Sullivan

Guest Musicians ~ *Karen Thielen, harp; Evan Fine, violin; Anh Tuan Huynh, tuba; Chris Nalls, horn; John Halbleib, trumpet; Dave Landers, trombone; Genny Kromm, trumpet; Leroy Kromm piano; Jason Sander, timpani.*

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 (officemanager@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 March, **Presbyterian Women (PW)** and friends are serving coffee & refreshments after worship.

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.

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.

No Children’s Sunday School Today; the nursery is open; children 3 and under are welcome. In the Sanctuary entry (Narthex) there are some activities for children to use during worship. All children are invited to participate in the Children’s sermon.

Today the Unity Candle is at Foothill Community/First Thai (Revs. Andy & Lindsay Wong; Rev Paul Pansuay). Each week the unity candle travels to a different church in the San Jose Presbytery; please pray for all God’s people in this congregation.

The Retable Floral is placed in celebration of the glorious Resurrection of Jesus Christ and the renewal of life.

Visitor Boutonnieres - If you're visiting today, be sure to pick up a boutonniere from one of our greeters! A warm Easter welcome: we are so happy you're here!

Flower Cross – Please add flowers and message ribbons, provided, to the flower cross on the church's front lawn. We encourage everyone to participate.

Men's Book Group meets **tomorrow, Mon, Apr 21st** (7 pm), in the Lincoln House (office) conference room, to discuss "Framed" by Jim McClosky and John Grisham. All men welcome—to enjoy the conversation, wine & snacks.

Loaves and Fishes – Join Stone Church volunteers who make and serve meals **next Wed, Apr 23rd**. For info, contact (maureenLchandler@comcast.net).

Jim Lathrop's Memorial will be held at Stone Church on **Sat, Apr 26th** (2pm). All are invited.

Kathleen O'Brien's family is having her memorial service at Center for Spiritual Enlightenment (1146 University Ave., SJ), **Sat, May 17th** (1pm).

Trail Walkers – After many raining months, we have finally scheduled a hike for **Sat, Apr 26th**. This is a 3.5-to-4-mile gentle downhill walk (yes, downhill!) from the summit of Mt. Umunhum to the Bald Eagle parking lot where we will stage our cars before the hike. There will be time before we set out to explore the grounds and enjoy the views from the summit. Meet at the church patio at 8am sharp if you would like to carpool. For more information or to RSVP, contact Kathy Stark (kathystark.4@gmail.com).

Prayer Shawl Group meets the 4th Saturday each month at 1pm, **next Saturday (April 26)**. Come if you are interested in knitting, crocheting, or come to socialize and see what others are creating. Contact Ginny Barret for details (ginnybarret@gmail.com).

Rapid Response Network Training, next Sun, April 27th (2-3:30pm). Join PACT and Stone Church of Willow Glen to learn what you can do to help protect our immigrant community when ICE comes to our county. We have launched the Santa Clara Rapid Response Network with a hotline people can call for support when they face immediate ICE action in our community. Get training to be a Legal Observer at potential ICE actions to safely protect the rights of our undocumented neighbors. **Sign up in the Social Hall today.**

Our Monthly Taizé Service is Tues, May 6th

(1st Tuesday of the month). Taizé Prayer is evening prayer for all Christian faiths. It is a simple, meditative form of worship, calling us to dwell deeply on Christ's presence around and within us. Mantra songs (like "Jesus, Remember Me"), prayerful silence, and short readings guide the focus of the prayer in a candle-lit environment. Come explore this time of quiet, music, scripture, and prayer. Sanctuary doors open at 6:30 pm and the service is from 6:45 - 7:30 pm.

WG 5K - Stone Church will be a Sponsor for the [Willow Glen 5K](#) – **Sat, May 10th**.

- [Register](#) to **walk**, run or stroll the event, and consider wearing your Stone Church t-shirt! (<https://wg5k.org/registration>)
- **Join the Team!** When registering, select "Stone Church of Willow Glen" as your team!
- **Need a Stone Church T-Shirt** to wear on race day? Shirts will be available (free) in the Social Hall after church, shirts are first-come, first-serve basis through May 4th.

PW's Hudspeth Trust Scholarships are available for undergraduate college bound students. Email office_manager@stonechurch.org for an application. If you have questions, please contact Nanci Eksterowicz (nancigrace@comcast.net, 408.887.2965). **The deadline for applications is July 1, 2025.** US mail applications to PW Stone Church, Scholarships, 1937 Lincoln Ave, San Jose 95125, post marked by July 1, 2025, or emailed to nancigrace@comcast.net by July 1, 2025.

Receive Church Updates! - To receive the weekly Friday email and other office updates, please email OfficeManger@StoneChurch.org and ask to be added to our email list.



2025 Easter Flowers, given by...

Susan Bedolla	In memory of Mary Alice Collins
The Coleman/Espinal Family	In memory of Lamar Coleman and Michael Fatjo
Nanci Eksterowicz	In memory of Mary and Chester Eksterowicz
Janice Goertz	In memory of Mel Goertz, Mary Brandt Kerr, Junelle Taylor Brandt and Jim & Eleanor Brandt
Jim Hagan	In memory of Linda J. Hagan
Claudia Hamm	In memory of The Rev. Dr. David G. Beamer and The Rev. Dr. Robert S. Bowles, former Pastors of Stone Church
Art & Virginia Holtz	In memory of Jan Jursnich & Karen Smith, Virginia's sisters
Derk & Mary Johnson	In memory of Newell & Mildred Johnson, Joy Johnson, Janet & Loren Barton, Debbie Clark, Cindy Gottberg
Judy Kaiser	In honor of my church family
Jerry & Jan Keifer	In honor of our grandchildren: Mary Kate, max, Holly Lauren and their friends Eleanore & Matt
Beth Lococo	In remembrance of family members no longer with us
Bob & Fran Lowry	In memory of Ruth Lowry & Veronica Augello
Martha Mamula	In memory of her parents, Dr. and Mrs. Milton Mamula
Diane Mathios	In memory of James Mathios
Jeff Mattan	In memory of Fabein Pichon, Mary Ann Mattan and Ed Mattan
Suzanne Murata	In honor of Marilyn Butz and Hae Yong Kim
Fred & Lizanne Oliver	Claude & Martha Oliver and Arnold and Eleanor Lingle
Kathleen Oliver	In memory of Eugene & Elsie Oliver, William and Elsie Schmidt, Melsa Clapp, Dulcie Janzen, Myrtle Oliver and Marie Munson
Bruce & Ida Raby	In memory Ruth Weaver and in honor of her daughter, Sharon Attebury
Michael Raby-Brown	In honor of Aunt Chris Baker, Cousin Dot Kinnebrew & Cousin Traci Ripple
Jeanette Rapp	In honor of Rev. Marge Palmer
Bill Ribble	In memory of Bill and Betsy Ribble and Harold and Alice Rathbun
Dorothy Rowe	In memory of my parents, Lester and Elinor Rowe
Laurence & Joyce Summers	In memory of Mettalee Geesa & Bernice Rich

Alice Thorn	In memory of Wesley James Brubacher – 3/28/1936-3/30/2025 (brother)
Rod and Alice Thorn	In honor of our loving family – Lisa, Jason, Michael, Jared, Machen, Adamen, Aria and Jaiden
The Van Den Bosch Family	In honor of all who give their love and talents to Stone Church and congregation
Dilafruz Williams	In honor of Mary Anne Williams
The Zisch Family	In memory of Grandma Hulbert

In memory of those who passed away since last Easter... Kathleen O'Brien. Jim Lathrop, Mel Goertz, Mary Alice Collins, Barbara Arata, Joan Helms, Rev. George Erickson, Rev. Bob Bowles, Carol Lathrop, Diana Lim, and Mercedes Martin



April 20 – 27, 2025

Sunday (4/20)

6:30 - 7:30am
8:30 - 9am
9:30 - 10:30am
& Zoom
10:30 - 11am

Easter Sunday

Sunrise Worship - SH
Choir Practice - SA
Worship & Communion - SA

Coffee Fellowship - SH

Monday (4/21)

9:30 - 11:30am
2:30pm
Group
4 - 7:30pm
6 - 7:30pm
7pm
Conf.Room

Easter Monday

OMG - Conf.Room
PW Page Turners Book

Vivace - SH
Vivace - SA
Men's Book Group -

Tuesday (4/22)

11am - 2:30pm
7 - 8:30pm

Library Work - Conf.Room
Deacons - Conf.Room

Wednesday (4/23)

4:30 - 6:15pm
7:30 - 9pm

Vivace - SH
Choir Practice - SH

Thursday (4/24)

5 - 8pm
7 - 9pm
7 - 8:30pm

Vivace - SH
MSC2 - FR
Session - Conf.Room

Friday (4/25)

9:30 - 11am
Conf.Room

Caregivers' Support -

Saturday (4/26)

8:30am - 12pm
1 - 3pm
2 - 4pm

Trailwalkers - Mt. Umunhum
Prayer Shawl Ministry
Lathrop Memorial

Next Sunday (4/27)

8:30 - 9am
9:30 - 10:30am
Zoom

Choir Practice - SA
Worship & Communion - SA &

10:30 - 11am
2 - 3:30pm
Training - SA
5 - 7pm
5 - 7pm

Coffee Fellowship - SH
Rapid Response Network

Chromatic Convergence - SH
Youth Group - SH

APRIL Birthdays - (1st) Garrett Balao; (2nd) Craig Bowers; (3rd) Peter Nelson; (4th) Madison McManus; (5th) Renee Pavlovich; (8th) Lizanne Oliver, Laraine Pitcher, Joyce Linn, & Mary Burfine; (9th) Eric Olson; (10) Alison Armstrong; (12th) Janice Goertz; (15th) Rev. Marge Palmer, Pam Hood, & Rhonda Lakatos; (17th) Michele Edwards, Bob Lowry, Marcia Ludwig & Nina Mundi; (20th) Jody Evans; (21st) Sheri Cunningham.; (22nd) Allison van Digglen; (23rd) Claudia Hamm; (24th) Gary Fritz & Bill Ribble; (27th) Susan Bedolla. & Heather Henry; (28th) Sabine Nelson; (29th) Jerry Keifer; (30th) Raven Bateman, Jim Hagan & Rod Thorn.

APRIL Anniversary - Fran & Bob Lowry (4/10/1976)

The Elders of the Session		
Clerk of Session ~ Deborah Crim (debcrim@pacbell.net)		
<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Jeremy Easton 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)		
<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
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)		
<u>Class of 2025</u>		<u>Class of 2026</u>
Derk Johnson Lizanne Oliver Susan Bedolla		Jim Hagan Guy Lohman Michele Smith

Donate to Stone Church



Zelle (No Fees)
OfficeManager@StoneChurch.org

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

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

Rev. Marge Palmer – Pastor Emerita
ChoirDirector@stonechurch.org – Nancy Kromm
Organist@stonechurch.org – Barbara Vella
ChildrensMinistry@stonechurch.org – Amber Biscardi

ChildrensChoir@stonechurch.org – Peggy Spool
OfficeManager@stonechurch.org – Jennifer Scott-Brand

Treasurer@stonechurch.org – Ruthanne Martinez
ASL Interpreter Coordinator
 stonechurch.stephfoisy@gmail.com
 Nursery Supervisor – Liliana Borda
 Custodians – Victor & Sonia Perez
 Memorial Coordinator – Hilleguus Faber
 Wedding Coordinator – Lizanne Oliver
 Parish Nurse – Mary Johnson

WebMaster@stonechurch.org – Jody Meacham
IT@stonechurch.org – Nathan Smith
MMM@stonechurch.org – Men's Mission & Ministry
PrayerChain@stonechurch.org – Mary-Ann Hudson
PW@stonechurch.org – Sheri Cunningham