



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

**November 3, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.  
All Saints Day**

**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**

*“Come, Come, Ye Saints”  
(All is Well)*

*arr. Clay Christiansen  
Barbara Vella, Organist*

**Welcome**

**Introit**

*“How Firm a Foundation” (#463 v 1&2)*

*Stone Church Chancel Choir; Jason Gallardo, Substitute Director*

**\*Call to Worship**

*Guy Lohman, Liturgist*

*We gather today in the spirit of courage and faith, inspired by Rahab, who welcomed strangers with open arms.*

**In her story, we see the power of hospitality and strength in unlikely places.**

*Like Rahab, we come with our stories, ready to encounter the Divine among us.*

**We celebrate the God who sees us, recognizes our worth, and calls us by name.**

*As we worship, let us embrace inclusivity, welcome the marginalized, and stand for justice.*

**May our hearts be open and our spirits bold, as we seek to embody God’s love.**

*Together, let us lift our voices in praise, honoring the courage that transforms lives.*

**We come to worship the God of grace and redemption, who invites us into a greater story. Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn #2 GTG “Come, Thou Almighty King”**

1  
Come, Thou Almighty King,  
Help us Thy name to sing,  
Help us to praise:  
Father, all-glorious,  
O'er all victorious,  
Come, and reign over us,  
Ancient of Days.

2  
Come, Thou Incarnate Word,  
Gird on Thy mighty sword,  
Our prayer attend:  
Come, and Thy people bless,  
And give Thy word success;  
Spirit of holiness,  
On us descend.

3  
Come, Holy Comforter,  
Thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour:  
Thou who almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart,  
And ne'er from us depart,  
Spirit of power.

4  
To Thee, great One in Three,  
The highest praises be,  
Hence evermore!  
Thy sovereign majesty  
May we in glory see,  
And to eternity  
Love and adore.

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**Call to Confession** (Isaiah 57:15)

*For thus says the high and lofty one who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy: I dwell in the high and holy place, and also with those who are contrite and humble in spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite.*

**Prayer of Confession**

**Loving God, you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all, but we confess that we are often influenced more by the values of Empire, than the values of Jesus. We get caught up in the empty promises of greed, power, supremacy, and domination. Forgive us, and restore us. May your spirit fill us, Holy One, to follow the way of Jesus, joining in a creative and liberating movement for your peace, your shalom, your flourishing, for all. Amen.**

**Silence**

**Assurance of Pardon**

*Our hope is in the Lord our God, who keeps faith with us forever. God's mercy is everlasting!  
In Christ, we are loved and forgiven.*

**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**

*Joshua 2:1-14 (O.T., p. 194)*

*Then Joshua son of Nun sent two men secretly from Shittim as spies, saying, 'Go, view the land, especially Jericho.' So they went, and entered the house of a prostitute whose name was Rahab, and spent the night there. The king of Jericho was told, 'Some Israelites have come here tonight to search out the land.' Then the king of Jericho sent orders to Rahab, 'Bring out the men who have come to you, who entered your house, for they have come only to search out the whole land.' But the woman took the two men and hid them. Then she said, 'True, the men came to me, but I did not know where they came from. And when it was time to close the gate at dark, the*

men went out. Where the men went I do not know. Pursue them quickly, for you can overtake them.' She had, however, brought them up to the roof and hidden them with the stalks of flax that she had laid out on the roof. So the men pursued them on the way to the Jordan as far as the fords. As soon as the pursuers had gone out, the gate was shut.

Before they went to sleep, she came up to them on the roof and said to the men: 'I know that the Lord has given you the land, and that dread of you has fallen on us, and that all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before you. For we have heard how the Lord dried up the water of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites that were beyond the Jordan, to Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. As soon as we heard it, our hearts failed, and there was no courage left in any of us because of you. The Lord your God is indeed God in heaven above and on earth below. Now then, since I have dealt kindly with you, swear to me by the Lord that you in turn will deal kindly with my family. Give me a sign of good faith that you will spare my father and mother, my brothers and sisters, and all who belong to them, and deliver our lives from death.' The men said to her, 'Our life for yours! If you do not tell this business of ours, then we will deal kindly and faithfully with you when the Lord gives us the land.'

**Anthem**

"Sine Nomine"

Ralph Vaughan Williams

**The Second Lesson**

Joshua 2:15-24 (O.T., p. 195)

Then she let them down by a rope through the window, for her house was on the outer side of the city wall and she resided within the wall itself. She said to them, 'Go towards the hill country, so that the pursuers may not come upon you. Hide yourselves there for three days, until the pursuers have returned; then afterwards you may go on your way.' The men said to her, 'We will be released from this oath that you have made us swear to you if we invade the land and you do not tie this crimson cord in the window through which you let us down, and you do not gather into your house your father and mother, your brothers, and all your family. If any of you go out of the doors of your house into the street, they shall be responsible for their own death, and we shall be innocent; but if a hand is laid upon any who are with you in the house, we shall bear the responsibility for their death. But if you tell this business of ours, then we shall be released from this oath that you made us swear to you.' She said, 'According to your words, so be it.' She sent them away and they departed. Then she tied the crimson cord in the window.

They departed and went into the hill country and stayed there for three days, until the pursuers returned. The pursuers had searched all along the way and found nothing. Then the two men came down again from the hill country. They crossed over, came to Joshua son of Nun, and told him all that had happened to them. They said to Joshua, 'Truly the Lord has given all the land into our hands; moreover, all the inhabitants of the land melt in fear before us.'

**Sermon**

"Rahab the Prostitute and the Hebrew Spies"

The Rev. Dr. Leslie Veen

**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**

"Paraphrase on Suo Gan"

Hans-André Stamm (b. 1958)

## \*Dedication of the People and Their Gifts Hymn #606

***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

*Creator God, All that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours, and you lovingly rule over all.  
Therefore, Lord, receive these offerings, our tangible expressions of love and gratitude.  
Transform them into a source of life for many, so that your peace may grow in the hearts of all.  
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.*

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Communion servers ~ Dick Kistler, Emily Meacham, 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!

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*...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

**Hymn #527 B GTG "Eat this Bread"**

*Laraine Pitcher, flute*

***Eat this bread; drink this cup;***

***come to Christ and never be hungry.***

***Eat this bread, drink this cup;***

***trust in Christ and you will not thirst***

## Prayer after Communion

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

## We Go Out in God's Name

### \*Closing Hymn #346 GTG      *"For the Healing of the Nations"*

1  
*For the healing of the nations,  
Lord, we pray with one accord;  
For a just and equal sharing  
Of the things that earth affords.  
To a life of love and action  
Help us rise and pledge our word.*

2  
*Lead your people into freedom,  
From despair your world release  
That, redeemed from war and hatred,  
All may come and go in peace.  
Show us how, through care and goodness,  
Fear will die and hope increase.*

3  
*All that kills abundant living,  
Let it from the earth be banned:  
Pride of status, race, or schooling,  
Dogmas that obscure our plan.  
In our common quest for justice  
May we hallow life's brief span.*

4  
*You, creator God, have written  
Your great name on humankind;  
For our growing in your likeness  
Bring the life of Christ to mind,  
That by our response and service  
Earth its destiny may find.*

### \*Charge and Benediction

#### Postlude

*"Placare Christe Servulis"*  
*(For the Feast of All Saints)*

*Marcel Dupre (1886-1971)*

*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**.

## Thank You...

**ASL** ~ Stephanie Foisy

**Deacon Greeters** ~ Sheri Cunningham

**Ushers** ~ Marta Espinal

**Floral** ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

**Sound** ~ Jeremy Easton

**Zoom** ~ Eastons

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### 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](http://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](mailto: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 November, **Personnel & Administrative (P&A), Stephen Ministry** 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 at 9:30 am (stone building on the other side of the Social Hall). Children will come to the sanctuary to participate in Communion.

There are only 2 more practices until the Stepping Stones Youth Choir Sing! Please bring your singing voices to Sunday School to sing with Mrs. Peggy. We also have an exciting tour after Church. **The children are welcome to stay after service to learn how the Pipe Organ works, and maybe even tinker a few notes on it. Amber remembers doing this as a child here at Stone Church, and it has stuck with her for decades!**

**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.

**The Floral on the Retable** is in memory of the first anniversary of the death of Guy Lohman's sister, Judith.

**The Rose** is in celebration of the birth (10/23) of Imogen Millie Cole, granddaughter of Bob and Fran Cole.

**Guest Pastor** – Welcome back Rev. Dr. Leslie. She is the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs for Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, an ordained pastor in the PC(USA), a member of the Committee on Ministry for the Presbytery of San Francisco, and a Parish Associate for Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church.

**Sermon Theme** - Rahab's profession as a prostitute is key to the success of the two spies sent by Joshua. It would be believable that foreign men would visit her in this regard. This gave them a modicum of cover. Yet, they were still discovered as spies. Rahab, thinking quickly on her feet, saves them, and in the process, ultimately saves herself and her family from the devastation to come at the hands of Joshua and his men. God did not condemn Rahab for her profession; rather God used her as a part of God's larger plan and blessed her for it. Does this challenge our way of thinking and interacting with people we might tend to look down upon and judge? How are we being called to honor God's divine image in all of creation?

**First Sunday SHCS Donations** – **Today**, we collect and donate items for Sacred Heart Community Services. Place donated food & goods in the Narthex collection baskets. If you missed bringing something today, consider bringing something next month. Needed items: 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. **We collected 123.4 pounds of goods in October, how much will we collect today?**

**No Adult Ed Today – Next week**, Nov 10: Mission Study (Deborah Crim); Nov 17: Ten Commandments (Alice Thorn); Nov 24: Lilith (Dr. Barb Fraser).

**Help Needed Today** to pass out Taizé flyers around the neighborhood. If you are available, meet Janice McClure on the patio after worship. You can also pick up flyers to hand out to family and friends.

**November Taizé** – There are two services in November, the first **Tues, Nov 5<sup>th</sup>** (Election Day), and another the following week, **Tues, Nov 12<sup>th</sup>**. Join us for two contemplative services at a time when there is a need to foster understanding, compassion, and reconciliation. Help us get the word out and pass out flyers, see notice above.

**Enneagram Workshop – Next Saturday, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>** - *A Journey of Self Discovery with the Enneagram Sat, Nov 9<sup>th</sup>* (1-4 pm). Join us for a transformative 3-hour workshop (lead by [Kirsten Oates](#)) 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. Whether you are familiar with the Enneagram or just beginning to explore, this workshop is for anyone seeking to grow in self-awareness, compassion, and spiritual maturity.

**Friends and Family are invited too! RSVP required – email the office** ([office\\_manager@stonechurch.org](mailto:office_manager@stonechurch.org)) **with number attending**. The \$25 suggested donation can be paid in advance, or at the event – list “workshop” with payment.

**Musicians Needed** for the Advent/Christmas season. We're looking for musician members or their friends who are interesting in making our seasonal music special. Contact Vern ([verntegger@yahoo.com](mailto:verntegger@yahoo.com)), Laraine ([lpitcher@comcast.net](mailto:lpitcher@comcast.net)), or Fred ([fredoliver@aol.com](mailto:fredoliver@aol.com)) for more info.

**Snow Trip Sign-Ups** are coming soon! The snow trip is at Zephyr Point in Lake Tahoe **Jan 31- Feb 2, 2025**. Email Amber ([amber\\_biscardi@stonechurch.org](mailto:amber_biscardi@stonechurch.org)) for details.

**In-Kind Donation Receipts** are due into the office the first week of December. In-kind donations are goods/items rather than money (or cash) that are given to the church, such as food or supplies to be used for the church or an event: church workday, choir retreat, youth group, office supplies, etc. To have these donations appear on your year-end giving tax statement, please provide the Office Manager an itemized summary, receipts, name of program/event supported, and your name. [office\\_manager@stonechurch.org](mailto:office_manager@stonechurch.org)

**2025 Women's Retreat** St. Francis Retreat Center (San Juan Bautista) is **Fri, Apr 4<sup>th</sup> – Sun Apr 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025**. If you are interesting in joining the planning committee, please contact Emily Meacham ([emilymm@pacbell.net](mailto:emilymm@pacbell.net)).

**Wreath Making Workshop** - You are invited to a special “Solidarity” Christmas Wreath Workshop in support of [Partners Relief and Development](#).- **Sat, Dec 7<sup>th</sup> (3-5pm)**. Partners is fueled by the conviction that children shouldn't suffer because adults are fighting. They are working around the world to provide aid and support for communities affected by conflict and oppression.

Harmony in Bloom will help to create this special seasonal space of community, generosity, and love. In order to provide the right amount of supplies, please **RSVP by Sunday, Dec 1<sup>st</sup>**. Donations can be made at the event. **Scan QR code to sign-up**





Sponsored by the Deacons of  
Stone Church of Willow Glen  
**Parent's Day Out**

Treat yourself to a day out while we entertain your kids.  
Children 4-12 are invited for a day of fun,  
including crafts, games, and a holiday movie.  
Lunch provided.



**December 7 @ 10am-2pm**

**1937 Lincoln Ave**

Scan QR to RSVP by Nov. 20th



**November 3 – 10, 2024**

**Sunday (11/3) Daylight Savings Time Ends  
“Fall Back”**

8:30 - 9am	Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am	Worship & Communion - SA
10:30 - 11am	Coffee Fellowship – SH
11am	Children’s’ Organ Tour - SA
5 - 7pm	Chromatic Convergence -

**Monday (11/4)**

9:30 - 11:30am	OMG - CR
4 - 7:30pm	Vivace - SH
6 - 7:30pm	Vivace SA
7:30pm	B&F - Zoom

**Tuesday (11/5)**

5:30 - 6:30pm	<b>Election Day</b>
6:30 - 7:30pm	Worship Mtg - CR
7:30pm	Taizé Service - SA
	B&G, StoneWorks - Zoom

**Wednesday (11/6)**

1 - 3pm	Amethyst Circle - Zoom
3 - 5pm	Stephen Minister Leaders - CR
4:30 - 6:15pm	Vivace - SH
7:30 - 9pm	Choir Practice - SH

**Thursday (11/7)**

10 - 11am	Emerald Circle - Zoom
5 - 8pm	Vivace - SH

**Friday (11/8)**

9:30 - 11am	Caregivers' Support - CR
1:30 - 4pm	Liturgical Arts - Room 1

**Saturday (11/9)**

1 - 4pm	Enneagram Workshop - SH
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**Next Sunday (11/10)**

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 - SH/K

**NOVEMBER Birthdays** - (2nd) Don Skipwith & Julie Ludwig; (8th) Ida Raby; (9th) Marsha Wadley; (10th) Michael Donald; (12th) Charlotte Dickson; (13th) Dick Kistler; (15th) Doug Williams; (16th) Cathy Marlatt; (18th) Aby Ryan & Carole Brandt; (19th) Sandi Lococo; (30th) Donna Erickson



Web Master - Jody Meacham - jtmjr@pacbell.net

Social Media - socialmedia@stonechurch.org

<b>The Elders of the Session</b>		
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
<b>The Board of Deacons</b>		
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
<b>Nominating Committee</b>		
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 - *On leave*  
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  
shericnngnm@gmail.com

**Stephen Ministry Coordinator** – Michele Smith  
michelesmith801@comcast.net

**StoneCares** – Stonecares@stonechurch.org