

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

**October 20, 2024 - 9:30 a.m.
22nd Sunday after Pentecost**

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

“Where E'er You Walk”

*G. F. Handel (1685-1759)
Barbara Vella, Organist*

Welcome

Rev. Fred Harrell, Transitional Pastor

Stewardship Moment

Matt Marcotte

Introit

“Christ is the World’s Light”

Stone Church Chancel Choir; Jason Gallardo, Substitute Director

K. Lee Scott

***Call to Worship (Psalm 121)**

Bob Cole, Liturgist

I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come?

My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

God will not let your foot be moved. The one who keeps you will not slumber.

Behold, the Lord, the keeper of Israel, will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper. The Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil. God will keep your life.

The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

***Opening Hymn #263 GTG** “All Hail the Power of Jesus Name”

1
All hail the power of Jesus' Name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem,
And crown Him Lord of all!

2
Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,
Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all!
Hail Him who saves you by His grace,
And crown Him Lord of all!

3
Let every kindred, every tribe,
On this terrestrial ball,
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!
To Him all majesty ascribe,
And crown Him Lord of all!

4
O that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all!
We'll join the everlasting song,
And crown Him Lord of all!

***Prayer of Adoration**

Call to Confession (based on Isaiah 55:6-7)

Seek the Eternal One, and you will surely find; all upon your Creator, for God is near. Let the corrupt abandon their ways, and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them return to God, who delights in showing mercy, let them return to our God, who is lavish with forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, you despise nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who come to you. Create in us new and contrite hearts, that, truly turning away from our sins and acknowledging our brokenness, we may obtain from you, the God of all mercy, peace and forgiveness, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon (Ephesians 2:8)

By grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God. This is the good news.

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

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6, 11 (N.T., p. 205)

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security", then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Anthem

“Christ is the World’s Light”

K. Lee Scott

The Second Lesson

Matthew 25:13-21 (N.T., p. 28)

Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.”

Sermon

“Everything a Gift: The Foundation of Generosity”

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

“Trio Chorale on 'Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”

Larry Visser (b. 1962)

***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**

Lord, 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 ~ Matt Marcotte, Jonathan Miller, Rosaleen Zisch

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.

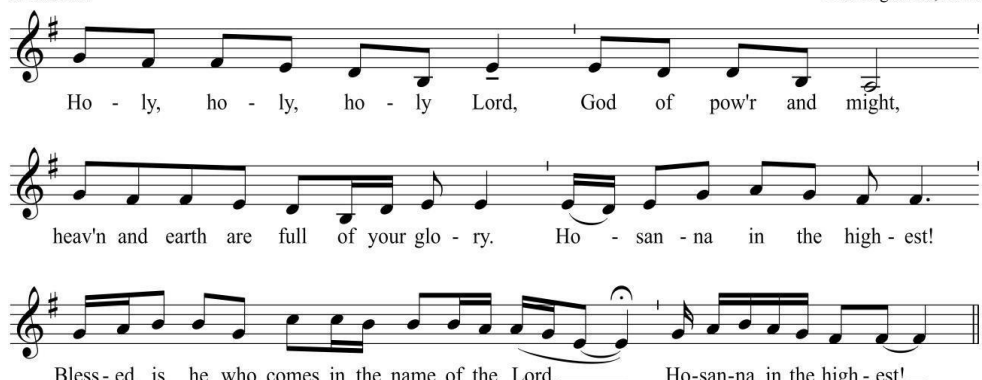
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

***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

Christ our host, we thank you for this table where all are welcomed and discover your grace: may our hearts learn to yield to your longing for us and our lives be shaped by the sanctifying Spirit. Amen.

We Go Out in God's Name

*Closing Hymn #738 GTG "O Master Let Me Walk With Thee"

1
*O Master, let me walk with Thee
In lowly paths of service free;
Tell me Thy secret; help me bear
The strain of toil, the fret of care.*

2
*Help me the slow of heart to move
By some clear, winning word of love;
Teach me the wayward feet to stay,
And guide them in the homeward way.*

3
*Teach me Thy patience; still with Thee
In closer, dearer company,
In work that keeps faith sweet and strong,
In trust that triumphs over wrong.*

4
*In hope that sends a shining ray
Far down the future's broadening way;
In peace that only Thou canst give,
With Thee, O Master, let me live.*

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

“Toccata on a Theme from Beethoven” Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

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

Please exit thru the back doors, thru the Narthex to the patio.

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

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

Thank You...

ASL ~ Hannah Davis

Deacon Greeters ~ Jenny Pichon

Ushers ~ Rhonda & Bill Lakatos

Floral ~ Diane Van Den Bosch

Sound ~ Jeremy Easton

Zoom ~ Amaya Easton

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 at 9:30 am (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.

The Floral on the Retable is placed with lots of love for Ava Lane Van Den Bosch, celebrating her 3rd birthday. Happy Birthday to our beautiful grandchild!

Adult Ed - (11am SA) – “Accounting for My Journey.” For many Christians, church history can support their traditional faith. For Bob Fraser, that history before the Protestant Reformation, through Old Testament Judaism back to Bronze-Age Canaan, was a subversive revelation. Come hear how Bob discovered the courage through the history of our church to question orthodoxy and develop a faith that, while completely in line with Presbyterian liturgy, is unique to his ideology.

Next Week - Oct 27th - *The Paradise Notebooks* - A reading by, and conversation with, local author [Richard J. Nevle](#), & special guest, singer-songwriter [Deborah Levoy](#). In *The Paradise Notebooks*, Richard J. Nevle and Steven Nightingale weave in vignettes from a ninety-mile back-packing trip across the Sierra Nevada range with their families. Nevle and Nightingale powerfully reconceive the Sierra Nevada as both earthly matter and transcendental offering.

Stewardship has started its 2025 pledge campaign - *Glorious Past, Hopeful Future!* A letter was emailed a week ago with links to the online pledge form as well as a PDF version. During worship today, a member will tell why they pledge to Stone Church and what that commitment means. *Consecration Sunday* is **next week, Oct 27th**, the day we celebrate making our financial pledges for the work of the church. Pledging by the 27th aids the Budget Review Committee in creating our 2025 budget.

Hurricane Relief Offering – Session approved a congregational offering to occur this Sunday to provide relief through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The damage from Hurricanes Helene and Milton is severe. PDA is our denomination's path to get funds and needed items to local groups in the affected area quickly and for a sustained time, as needed. Write PDA in the memo field of your check or on your offering envelope. *"Many waters cannot quench love, neither can floods drown it."* Song of Solomon 8:7.

The Peace and Global Witness Offering can still be given today; mark donation with the word "Peace." 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.

Congregations can use up to 25% of this offering for peacemaking efforts that align with their passion. This year our StoneWorks 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.

Little Dresses for Africa - This week, 45 dresses will be sent to the Michigan headquarters and then on to Africa. Our talented tailors were Maureen Chandler, Jeanette Rapp, Mary-Ann Hudson, Hilleguus Faber, Karen Wessels, Barbara Clark, and Claudia Hamm. These dresses will help little girls know that they are special and beautiful! Thanks to all those who participated in our 10th year with this program.

Men's Book Group meets **tomorrow Mon, Oct 21st** (7 pm) at Jim Hagan's, to discuss "The Maid" by Nita Prose. All men are welcome; even if you haven't read it, come anyway, for the conversation, wine & snacks.

TrailWalkers – **This coming Sat, Oct 26th** all are invited to 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 invited; RSVP to Kathy (kathystark.4@gmail.com).

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

STOP Human Trafficking! Take action and stand with us as we call attention to human trafficking by standing with our signs on Lincoln Ave. Human trafficking is the recruitment, transport or transfer of persons using force, fraud or coercion to exploit them for acts of labor or sex. It is a form of modern-day slavery. If this issue speaks to you, please join us as we take our "stand" on **Mon, Oct 28th** (8:15a.m.), meeting in the church office. Signs and brochures are provided. Questions? Contact Claudia Hamm (jnchamm@gmail.com).

Halloween at Stone – Last year we had our first Halloween candy handout and it was a success! The neighborhood welcomed the participation and access to the picture perfect patio (lite up and glowing). This year we want to expand on that by handing out candy/treats as well as provide a place for tired trick-or-treaters (and their parents!) to rest and use the restroom. To do this we need volunteers working in 2-hour shifts from 4-9pm. Even if you cannot be there on Halloween night, you can still help by donating bags of candy or treats! Bring candy donations to the office. This is a great opportunity for Stone Church to be present during a big community night!

To volunteer to help out on Halloween night, sign up at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080E44ABA92BA7F58-51395533-stone#/>

Enneagram Workshop – *A Journey of Self Discovery with the Enneagram* **Sat, Nov 9th** (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 work-shop is for anyone seeking to grow in self-awareness, compassion, and spiritual maturity. **Friends and Family are invited too! RSVP required – email the office with number attending. The \$25 suggested donation** can be paid in advance, or at the event – list “workshop” with payment (office_manager@stonechurch.org).

2025 Women’s Retreat – Save the Date – Our annual women’s retreat at St. Francis Retreat Center in San Juan Bautista will be **Fri, Apr 4th – Sun Apr 6th, 2025**. The planning committee meets **next Sun, Oct 27th** (11am) in the office conference room. If you are interesting in joining the planning committee, come to the meeting next week and/or contact Emily Meacham (emilymm@pacbell.net).

Taizé History - The Taizé community was founded in 1940 by Swiss-born Brother Roger Schütz, son of a pastor and a Reformed Protestant. In the beginning, the Taizé community sheltered war refugees, mostly Jewish, who were escaping Nazi occupied France. It was part of the foundational belief of Brother Schütz that people from different countries and backgrounds could gather together to live and work together in kindness, simplicity, and reconciliation. At the heart of this belief was prayer for reconciliation of the Christian churches of the world.

Over time, the Taizé service evolved as one of simple singing prayer, mostly in Latin, and quiet periods of contemplation, so those of differing language and backgrounds could join. As a result, the Taizé community service has extended to mostly Protestant, Catholic, and Anglican churches in over 30 countries throughout the world, and has attracted tens of thousands of young people to participate in annual pilgrimages to Taizé, France. Together they participate in prayerful service but also focus on discussions to break down barriers, and prejudice between people and churches.

The church in Taizé, France, is now named The Church of Reconciliation.

Stone’s candlelight Taizé services at Stone Church are held the first Tuesday of the month. Sanctuary doors open at 6:30 pm and the service is from 6:45 - 7:30 pm. During Advent and Lent services are held every Tuesday during those seasons. Our next Taizé service will be Tuesday, November 5th.

How/why did Taizé start at Stone in 1998? That history will be in next week’s bulletin!



October 20 – 27, 2024

Sunday (10/20)

8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship -SH
11am - 12pm Adult Ed - SA
5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SA

Monday (10/21)

9:30 - 11:30am OMG - Conf. Room
2:30pm PW Page Turners Book Group
4 - 7:30pm Vivace - SH
6 - 7:30pm Vivace SA
7pm Men's Book Group - Hagan's

Tuesday (10/22)

12:30 - 3pm Library Work - Conf. Room
7 - 8:30pm Deacons - Conf. Room

Wednesday (10/23)

4:30 - 6:15pm Vivace - SH
7:30 - 9pm Choir Practice - SH

Thursday (10/24)

5 - 8pm Vivace - SH

Friday (10/25)

9:30 11am Caregivers' Support - Conf. Room

Saturday (10/26)

8:30am - 12pm Trailwalkers - L. Alamos Creek
9am B&F Audit - Conf. Room
1 - 3pm Prayer Shawl Ministry
7 - 9:30pm Adult Ed Prep - SA

Next Sunday (10/27)

8:30 - 9am Choir Practice - SA
9:30 - 10:30am Worship & Communion
10:30 - 11am Coffee Fellowship - SH
11am - 12:30pm Adult Ed - SA
11am - 12pm Womens' Re't Plan'g - CR
5 - 7pm Chromatic Convergence - SA
5 - 7pm Y. Group - Corn Maze - MH

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 Priedium (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)

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
shericnngnm@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

