**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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



**October 28, 2018 - 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. A head set is available upon request.

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)

***Please prepare for worship by listening to the music of the Prelude.***

**PRELUDE**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE**

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!** (Greeting)

**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**  *[excerpts from Psalm 34]*

Leader: I will bless the Lord at all times; his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

**People: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.**

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt his name together.

**People: I sought the Lord, and He answered me, and delivered me from all my fears.**

Leader: Look to God, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed.

**People: This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and was saved from every trouble.**

Leader: The angel of the Lord encamps around those who fear Him, and delivers them.

**People: Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.**

Leader: The eyes of the Lord are on the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.

**People: When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.**

Leader: The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

**People: Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord rescues them from them all.**

Leader: He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

**People: The Lord redeems the life of His servants; none of those who take refuge in Him will be condemned.**

**ALL: Let us praise our God!**

**\* HYMN** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates, behold, the King of glory waits;  
The King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart  
From earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide, my heart to Thee: here, Lord, abide.  
Let me Thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in me reveal.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Eternal God, in every age you have raised up all to live and die in faith. We confess that we are indifferent to your will. You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent. You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle. You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid. In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way, that joined with those from ages past, who have served you with faith, hope, and love, we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Have Mercy on Us, Living Lord*  Tune #195

Have mercy on us, living Lord, remember not our sin.

According to your steadfast love, come, cleanse us deep within.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Jesus said: blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

**People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Let Us with a Gladsome Mind*

Let us with a gladsome mind, praise the Lord who is so kind:

For God’s mercies shall endure, ever faithful, ever sure.

**\* 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**

Faithful God, how blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. Sanctify us by your Word and Spirit so that we may glorify you in the company of the faithful; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 24*

1 The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; 2 for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? 4 Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

5 They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. 6 Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. 7 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 8 Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. 9 Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. 10 Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Revelation 21:1-6a*

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.’ 5And the one who was seated on the throne said, ‘See, I am making all things new.’ Also he said, ‘Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.’ 6Then he said to me, ‘It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**TIME WITH YOUNG PEOPLE**

**SERMON**  *The Alpha and the Omega* Rev. Becca Crate

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *By All Your Saints Still Striving*

By all your saints still striving, for all your saints at rest,  
Your holy name, O Jesus, forevermore be blessed!  
For those passed on before us, we sing our praise anew  
And, walking in their footsteps, would live our lives for you.

We praise you for the Baptist, forerunner of the Word,  
Our true Elijah, making a highway for the Lord.  
The last and greatest prophet, he saw the dawning ray  
Of light that grows in splendor, until the perfect day.

All praise, O Lord, for Andrew, the first to welcome you,  
Whose witness to his brother, named you Messiah true.  
May we, with hearts kept open, to you throughout the year  
Proclaim to friend and neighbor, your advent ever near.

For Magdalene we praise you, steadfast at cross and tomb.  
Your “Mary!” in the garden, dispelled her tears and gloom.  
Apostle to the apostles, she ran to spread the word.  
Send us to shout the good news, that we have seen the Lord!

We pray for saints we know not, for saints still yet to be,  
For grace to bear true witness, and serve you faithfully,  
Till all the ransomed number, who stand before the throne  
Ascribe all power and glory, and praise to God alone.

**ALL SAINTS DAY**

Leader: Be gracious to us; deliver your people.

**People: Hear us, O God.**

Leader: You loved us....for the life of the world.

**People: Hear us, O God.**

Leader: For us and for our salvation...at the right hand of God.

**People: Great is your love.**

Leader: For the gift of the Holy spirit...which we are baptized.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: And now, we commemorate the saints who lived, breathed, and dwelled among us, who taught us what it meant to be faithful and who now reside with the saints triumphant.

[Please place a carnation in the vase in silence or say the name of the one you commemorate.]

Leader: For all holy men and women...the holy angels.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Be gracious to us; deliver your people.

**People: Hear us, O God.**

Leader: Give new life to your servants...saints to the river of life.

**People: Hear us, O God.**

Leader: God of all the faithful...forever and ever.

**People: Amen.**

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

“For this I pray to God.” / “For this I give thanks to God.”

**Congregational Response: “Hear our prayer, O God.”**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY *Here’s One*

**\*** SONG OF THANKS *My Gratitude Now Accept, O God*

All that is living belongs to you; all that I am in your hands kept.

From the abundance of your hand, gifts from the heart accept.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;  
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit, into every troubled breast!  
Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest;  
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;  
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,  
Pray, and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see Thy great salvation, perfectly restored in Thee;  
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: Our God is Alpha and Omega,

**People: The Beginning and End.**

Leader: Yet always with us,

**People: Every breath, every day.**

Leader: So we celebrate the saints,

**People: And the Spirit that resides within us as we commemorate them today.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

**Sunday November 4 Lectionary**

Ruth 1:1-18; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34

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

Today 10/28 Next Week 11/4

Sunday Opener Barbara Cornell Ron Holmes

Greeters & Ushers Don Vasbinder & Steve & Donna

Martha Streaker Mazer

Lay Leader Barbara Cornell Bob Steppling

Sunday School Connie Robinson Connie Robinson

Fellowship Deb & Charlie Sperling Diana Steppling

**Church Attendance:** October 14 - 36 October 21 - 39

Concert - 26

**Church Cleaning:** November 2, 3 or 4 - Jim & Mary Rhodes

**Happy Birthday!** November 1 - Olivia Oates

November 3 - Brenda McClung

**Announcements**

**Blessing of the Pets:** The Blessing of the Pets service **TODAY** at 1:00 pm on the parking lot. Rain date is November 4.

**Youth Group:** “Escape the Manse” is **TONIGHT** from 7 to 9 pm. It will be a fun adventure for brave souls who dare to try! There will be lots of other activities as well, so come to have some fun, whether you’re brave or timid, and friends are always welcome!

**Cards for a Cause:** Joshua Owens will be available **TODAY** and next Sunday with Greeting Cards for a Cause. The cards are $30 for a box of 30 cards, or $10 for a 10-card assortment. Proceeds will help fund Benjamin, Joshua’s service dog, arriving in Fall of 2019.

**Bible Study:** Bible study with Sarah Lantz, reading Brave--Honest Questions Women Ask by Angela Thomas-Pharr, will meet at Panera in Eldersburg on **October 30** and **November 13** at 7:00 pm.

**Daylight Savings Time Ends:** Don’t forget to set your clocks back Saturday night, **November 3!**

**Stewardship Sunday:** Stewardship Sunday will be on **November 11.** Individual letters have gone out to members and friends. If you haven’t received your letter by now, please contact the office at [spc.office@verizon.net](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net) or 410-795-6152 for a copy.

**Help Needed:** Due to declining health issues, I am unable to meet my church duties in November and December, so I am asking if several generous folks could volunteer for these obligations:

Church Opener - Sundays, November 18 and December 30

Serve Communion - Christmas Eve, Late Service (traditional)

Assist with Church Cleaning - either Nov. 16, 17 or 18 - help Sharon Pappas

Contact Donna in the Office if you decide to help so she can print the proper info in the Bulletin. I appreciate any help you can render to our wonderful Church! ~ Kay Freas

**Blood Drive:** Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church will be hosting a Red Cross blood drive on Saturday, **November 11,** from 7:30 am to 1:00 pm. Please contact Phil Salmon at 410-236-6882 or visit redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code WesleyFreedomUMCEldersburg to schedule your appointment.

**Needed:**  New volunteers for Ushers/Greeters for the following dates: March 10, 2019, April 28, 2019, May 19, 2019, August 4, 2019, Oct. 6, 2019, Dec. 24, 2019 (8 pm service). If you are able to serve any or all of these dates, please contact Kathy Russ at 410-795-2587 before the end of November. Many thanks!

**Weekly Announcements:** If you have an announcement to include with next week’s bulletin, please call the Office at 410-795-6152 or email to [spc.office@verizon.net](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net) by **Wednesday** each week.

**Prayers & Thanksgivings**

~ Prayers for the family of Dr. Elwood LaBrosse, who passed away on October 24. A memorial service will be held at a future date.

~ Prayers of comfort and strength for Kay Freas, whose cancer has spread.

~ Prayers for *St. Andrews of Mt. Airy* from our Ministry Group.

***The Congregational Care team wants to know what YOU or someone you know needs...****a visit...a call...a meal. Please contact Kay Freas or Connie Robinson.*

***Today:***

**Sunday October 28 - All Saints Celebration**

10:30 am Worship & Sunday School

11:30 am Fellowship

1:00 pm Blessing of the Pets (rain date 11/4)

7:00 pm Youth Group: Escape the Manse

***This Week:***

**Tuesday October 30**

7:00 pm Bible Study (Panera)

**Wednesday October 31**

6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Saturday November 3**

9:00 am Church & Manse Clean-Up

***Looking Ahead:***

**Sunday November 4**

9:00 am Red Sea Parting Practice

10:30 am Worship & Sunday School

11:30 am Fellowship

1:00 pm Blessing of the Pets Rain Date

4:00 pm Confirmation Class (Manse)

**Monday November 5**

4:30 pm C.I.A. Meeting

**Wednesday November 7**

6:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Thursday November 8**

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Manse)

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship & Sunday School

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 Crate

**Email:** springfieldpastor@gmail.com

**Clerk of Session:** Sharon Pappas

**Minister of Music:** Linda Caviglia

**Accompanist:** Aaron Thacker **Organist:** Jennifer Wise

**Youth Group Coordinators:** Charles & Deb Sperling

**Sunday School Coordinator:** Connie Robinson

**Administrative Assistant:**Donna Mazer

**e-mail:**[*spc.office@verizon.net*](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)