**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**September 5, 2021 - 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.

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)

**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** *[Psalm 146]*

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**People: I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**

Leader: Do not put your trust in princes, in mortals, in whom there is no help.

**People: When their breath departs, they return to the earth; on that very day their plans perish.**

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God,

**People: Our God made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; He keeps faith forever;**

Leader: He is the one who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. He sets the prisoners free;

**People: The Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

Leader: The Lord watches over the strangers; He upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked He brings to ruin.

**People: The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.**

**All: Let us come to this place and praise the Lord!**

**\* HYMN** *There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy*#435

There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea.

There’s a kindness in God’s justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt that up in heaven.

There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind.

And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God’s Word,

And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of our Lord.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

**Generous God, in all that we do and say, you invite us to a new way of life, a way of discipleship that reflects Christ’s earthly life. Yet when we have the opportunity, we choose to sow injustice rather than seek justice. When we can find ways to join people together in equality, we remain quiet. When we are called to recognize the belovedness of all, we choose to pick favorites. Forgive us, O God, in the ways we have gone astray. Renew us and restore us to this life of discipleship where we follow you more faithfully and reflect your Kingdom in this world. Amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Lord Jesus, Think on Me* Tune #417

Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin.

From earth-born passions set me free, and make me pure within.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Our righteousness is found in Christ alone, a gift of God by faith.

**People: As beloved people of God, we believe the good news: through the grace of Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia and Amen!**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Glory to God* Tune #583

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

**\* 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**

Guide us, O God, by your word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find freedom, and in your will discover your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Psalm 125*

1 Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved, but abides for ever. 2 As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people, from this time on and for evermore.   
3 For the sceptre of wickedness shall not rest on the land allotted to the righteous, so that the righteous may not stretch out their hands to do wrong. 4 Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in their hearts. 5 But those who turn aside to their own crooked ways the Lord will lead away with evildoers. Peace be upon Israel!

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**  *Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23*

A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. 2 The rich and the poor have this in common: the Lord is the maker of them all. 8 Whoever sows injustice will reap calamity, and the rod of anger will fail. 9 Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor. 22 Do not rob the poor because they are poor, or crush the afflicted at the gate; 23 for the Lord pleads their cause and despoils of life those who despoil them.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *Best Practices*Rev. Becca Crate

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

My soul cries out with a joyful shout that the God of my heart is great, and my spirit sings of the wondrous things that you bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your servant’s plight, and my weakness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my name be blest. Could the world be about to turn?

**Refrain:**

My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your justice burn. Wipe away all tears, for the dawns draws near, and the world is about to turn.

Though I am small, my God, my all, you work great things in me, and your mercy will last from the depths of the past to the end of the age to be. Your very name puts the proud to shame, and to those who would for you yearn, you will show your might, put the strong to flight, for the world is about to turn. **[Refrain]**

From the halls of power to the fortress tower, not a stone will be left on stone. Let the king beware for your justice tears every tyrant from his throne. The hungry poor shall weep no more, for the food they can never earn; there are tables spread; every mouth be fed, for the world is about to turn. **[Refrain]**

Though the nations rage from age to age, we remember who hold us fast: God’s mercy must deliver us from the conqueror’s crushing grasp. This saving word that our forebears heard is the promise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be crushed by God, who is turning the world around. **[Refrain]**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

## INVITATION

## THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People:** **And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

[The Pastor continues… “…who forever sing to the glory of your name.”]

**IN PRAISE OF GOD** Tune #552

**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, hosanna in the highest.**

[The Pastor continues… “…proclaim the one crucified and risen.”]

**IN PRAISE OF CHRIST** Tune #553

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

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

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

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**SHARING OF THE MEAL**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Unison)

**Dear God, take us out to live as changed people because we have shared the living bread and cannot remain the same. Ask much of us, expect much from us, enable much by us, encourage many through us. So, Lord, may we live to your glory, both as inhabitants of the earth, and citizens of the commonwealth of Heaven. Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

**\*** SONG OF THANKS*Doxology* Tune #606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* #757

Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord, to help to set the captive free, make plowshare out of sword, to feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race to live as stewards of the earth, responding to God’s grace. But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream, with righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem. For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease, a world that was created for a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God act out the living word, and walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard. As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord to God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: May we go from this place,

**People: As people who sow justice,**

Leader: In our communities,

**People: May we seek equality**

Leader: And in all we do and say,

**People: May we be the living presence of God in our world.**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

**Sunday September 12, 2021 Lectionary**

Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 116:1-9; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

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

Today 9/5 Next Week 9/12

Sunday Opener Jennifer Wise Barbara Cornell

Greeters & Ushers Need Volunteers Sharon Pappas &

Bob Rogers

Lay Leader Tim Oates Don Vasbinder

Fellowship Need Volunteer Need Volunteer

**Happy Birthday!** September 9 – Rachel Spicer

September 11 – Spencer McClung

September 11 – Blake Stewart

**Happy Anniversary!** September 7 – Max & Margaret Carroll

September 7 – Becky & Mike Spicer

September 12 – Jim & Jennifer Wise

**Announcements**

**Congregational Care / Mission & Outreach:** The Congregational Care/Mission & Outreach Committee would like your help. As we emerge from this pandemic, there is a greater than usual need to make every effort to connect with one another. Do you know of a member or friend of our church family who is ill, needs prayers, would like call, a visit or a card, or might benefit from meal train? If so, please contact the Church Office (410-795-6152), Cathy Marsh (410-549-6916) or Diana Steppling (862-266-2242).

**Volunteer Opportunities**

**Looking for a Ride:** We have a couple of folks in our Springfield family who need help getting to Church: Louise Clark who lives at Copper Ridge, and Angel Carbaugh who lives near Woodbine. Are you able to assist? Please contact Jennifer Wise at 443-745-7842.

**Ruth Gosnell Education Fund (RGEF) Committee:** A volunteer is needed to serve on the committee. Meetings are quarterly. If you are interested, please see Amy Vasbinder.

**Fellowship Volunteers Needed:** If you are interested, please see Barbara Cornell during Fellowship or email her at [barbaracornell4@gmail.com](mailto:barbaracornell4@gmail.com).

**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** to make sure your information gets in.

**Blessing Bags** are in the Narthex. Please feel free to pick up a few. Handing one out to someone in need gives you a very real way to meet their immediate needs by providing them with some basic supplies.

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship

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)