**(Large Print)**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**November 28, 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.**

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - HOPE**

A: We hope for a world where all are fed.

B: We hope for a world with more bridges than walls.

A: We hope for a world with wide open doors.

B: We hope for a world with contagious laughter.

A: We hope for a world where trees grow tall and creeks run clean.

B: We hope for a world where all people feel at home—in their bodies, in the church, in their physical homes.

A: We hope for that world.

B: We long for that world.

A: We are homesick for that world.

B: So today we light the candle of hope, because hope keeps our hearts alive as we wait.

A: May this light be a reminder that the wait is always worth it.

B: We are close to home. May we carry hope with us. Amen.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Can one be homesick for something you’ve never known?

**People: We are homesick for a just world, for peace like rivers, for the end of suffering**.

Leader: Yes, we are homesick— for joy that is contagious, for nations that feel like neighbors, and for hospitals that run empty.

**People: We are homesick for the world God promises**.

Leader: We are homesick, but we are on our way.

**People: God is here. God is still creating. Let us worship Holy God.**

**\* HYMN** *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* #367

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield,  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;  
From each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;  
Give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
But the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
There forever purified, in thy presence to abide:  
Come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Gracious God, we find ourselves with two options every day— to stay homesick for the world you had in mind, or to allow cynicism to win. Do we hope against hope, or do we throw in the towel? Do we insist on a better world, or do we assume it’s impossible? Forgive us for the days when cynicism wins. Forgive us for**

**numbing our homesick hurt instead of using it to fuel a better world. Kindle in us a hope that won’t let go. Gratefully we pray, amen.**

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry* (v. 2) Tune #430

Then cleansed be every life from sin; make straight the way for God within,

And let us all our hearts prepare for Christ to come and enter there.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

Leader: Family of faith, even when we throw in the towel, even when we give up on hope, God does not give up on us. We are loved. We are claimed. We are invited closer to God’s home. So hear and trust this good news: There is room for us in God’s house, and nothing can separate us from that love.

**People: We are claimed. We are forgiven. We are welcomed home. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

All thy works with joy surround thee; earth and heaven reflect thy rays;

Stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,

Chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in thee.

**\* 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**

God of the stars and God of our hearts— our days will pass but your words will last. The earth might fade but your words will last. Our memories might blur but your words will last. The grass will wither but your words will last. The sky could go dark and your words would last. So as we listen today, help us to hold onto what will last. Help us hold onto you. Gratefully we pray, **amen.**

**FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON**  Psalm 25

1 To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. 2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. 3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. 4 Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. 5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. 6 Be mindful of your mercy, O Lord, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old.   
7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness’ sake, O Lord! 8 Good and upright is the Lord; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. 9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. 10 All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees. 11 For your name’s sake, O Lord, pardon my guilt, for it is great. 12 Who are they that fear the Lord? He will teach them the way that they should choose. 13 They will abide in prosperity, and their children shall possess the land. 14 The friendship of the Lord is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them. 15 My eyes are ever towards the Lord, for he will pluck my feet out of the net. 16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. 17 Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. 18 Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. 19 Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. 20 O guard my life, and deliver me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.   
21 May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you.   
22 Redeem Israel, O God, out of all its troubles.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON**  Luke 21:25-36

25‘There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. 26People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. 27Then they will see “the Son of Man coming in a cloud” with power and great glory. 28Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.’

29Then he told them a parable: ‘Look at the fig tree and all the trees; 30as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. 31So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. 32Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. 33Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

34‘Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, 35like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. 36Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.’

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *Homesick* Rev. Becca Crate-Price

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN** *Why Should I Feel Discouraged* #661

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?  
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,  
When Jesus is my portion?  
My constant friend is he:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

**Refrain:**  
I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,   
For his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” his tender word I hear,   
And resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;  
Though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. **[Refrain]**

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,  
When song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,  
I draw the closer to him, from care he sets me free:  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;  
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me. **[Refrain]**

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

**ANTHEM**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Now Thank We All Our God* #643

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,  
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:  
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,  
The God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

Leader: As you leave this service, your service begins: Comfort the homesick.

**People: Open your doors to others.**

Leader: Seek sanctuary.

**People: Be brave enough to go home by another way.**

Leader: And remember that here in God’s house, all are welcomed—so come back soon.

**People: In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son— go in peace.**

**\* UNISON AMEN POSTLUDE**

**Sunday December 5, 2021 Lectionary – 2nd Sunday of Advent**

Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6

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

Today 11/28 Next Week 12/5

Sunday Opener Barbara Cornell Jennifer Wise

Greeters & Ushers Amy Vasbinder & Jim Wise &

Bob Rogers Connie Robinson

Lay Leader Mark Kearney Tim Oates

**Happy Birthday!** December 3 – Angel Carbaugh

December 4 – Ryley Brown

**Happy Anniversary!** November 29 – Amy & Omar Izaguirre

**Announcements**

**Annual SERRV Sale:** Check your inbox for an email from SPC about the annual holiday SERRV sale! Orders can be placed online through the provided link, with 20% of total sales for SPC to send to the charitable cause of our choice. Happy shopping!

**Fellowship Reminder:** Following the Worship service, we will gather downstairs for fellowship, but will not have food and will continue to wear our masks. We, as a Session, have made this decision out of an abundance of caution and the desire to keep our family of Christ safe and healthy.

**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).

***Today:***

**Sunday November 28 – 1st Sunday of Advent**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

***This Week:***

**Wednesday December 1**

6:15 – 7:15 pmBell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

***Looking Ahead:***

**Sunday December 5 – 2nd Sunday of Advent**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

**Wednesday December 8**

6:15 – 7:15 pmBell Choir Practice

7:30 – 8:45 pm Adult Choir Practice

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/Organist:** Aaron Thacker

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

**Sunday School Coordinator:** Connie Robinson

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