**Springfield Presbyterian Church (USA)**

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

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**September 7, 2025 - 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!** (Greetings and Announcements)

**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

Leader: God of our hopes and dreams, we are empty, and long to be filled;

**People: We are hungry, and long to be fed; we are lost, and long to be found.**

Leader: Gather us into your love,

**People: And pick up the pieces of our lives,**

Leader: Just as Jesus gathered up the fragments of the five loaves and two fish that remained after feeding the five thousand.

**People: Call us anew to eat our fill and to find our true nourishment in Jesus, the bread of heaven. Amen.**

~ Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press.

Posted on the Ministry Matters website. http://www.ministrymatters.com/

**\* HYMN** *God Is Here!* GTG #409

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
Wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
Here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
Here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
What it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt   
Keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive:  
We, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Leader: In this passage, Jesus's disciples face an overwhelming task: feeding a hungry crowd of thousands in a remote place. Their first instinct is to send the people away, because they see only what they have—five loaves and two fish—and they know it isn't enough. They are focused on their own limitations rather than on the power of God. How often do we do the same? We look at the great needs in our lives, our communities, and our world and say, "We don't have enough." We rely on our own resources and abilities, and we fail to bring our meager offerings to Christ, believing they are too small for him to use. Let us confess our lack of faith and our tendency to trust in our own scarcity rather than in God's abundance.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**We come believing in our emptiness, believing that we will never have enough, believing that what we have is unworthy.**

**We come fearful of sharing, fearful of losing our tenuous grip on security, fearful of touching and knowing the pain of others.**

**We come overwhelmed by the hunger, overwhelmed by the suffering of children near and far, overwhelmed by the endless tales of senseless violence, greed, and death.**

**We come aching from the weight of the responsibility, aching from the chilling challenge of knowing our abundance, aching from the gnawing awareness that we have much to share.**

**We come clinging to our meager lunches; bless them, and us. Break them, and us. Share them, and us.**

~ Written by Katherine Hawker, on Liturgy Outside. http://liturgyoutside.net/

**SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION**

**RESPONSE** *Hear My Prayer, O God* GTG #782 (v. 1)

Hear my prayer, O God, and listen to my plea;

Faithful, righteous One, give ear and answer me.

Judge me not, I pray; no merit dare I claim;

Knowing my own faults, I trust in your just Name.

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE**

The disciples were concerned about what they lacked, but Jesus took their small offering, gave thanks, and blessed it. He then multiplied it so that everyone ate and was satisfied, with twelve baskets of leftovers. Jesus did not chide them for their lack of resources but instead showed them that with him, a little is always more than enough. The grace of God is not about what we bring to the table, but about what Christ can do with what we offer. He takes our small efforts, our limited resources, and our humble lives, and he transforms them for his glory and for the good of all. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**\* MUSICAL RESPONSE OF PRAISE** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* GTG #610 (v. 5)

To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given

By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

**\* THE PEACE** The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you!**

(You may greet those around you.)

**\* RESPONSE** *Here I Am, Lord* GTG #69

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**

O God, your word tells us of a time when your Son, Jesus, took a small meal and miraculously fed a great multitude. We pray for the illumination of your Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds to this truth. Help us to see beyond our own

limitations and to trust in your boundless provision. Give us the faith of the disciples to offer you what little we have, knowing that you can use it to do more than we can ask or imagine. Teach us to rely not on our own strength or resources, but on your power to satisfy every hunger—physical, spiritual, and emotional. In the name of Jesus, the Bread of Life, we pray. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON *2 Kings 4:42-44* OT page 320

42A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, “Give it to the people and let them eat.” 43But his servant said, “How can I set this before a hundred people?” So he repeated, “Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the Lord, ‘They shall eat and have some left.’” 44He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the Lord.

**SECOND SCRIPTURE LESSON** *Luke 9:10-17* NT page 65

10On their return the apostles told Jesus all they had done. He took them with him and withdrew privately to a city called Bethsaida. [11](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-11.html) When the crowds found out about it, they followed him; and he welcomed them, and spoke to them about the kingdom of God, and healed those who needed to be cured. [12](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-12.html) The day was drawing to a close, and the twelve came to him and said, "Send the crowd away, so that they may go into the surrounding villages and countryside, to lodge and get provisions; for we are here in a deserted place." [13](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-13.html) But he said to them, "You give them something to eat." They said, "We have no more than five loaves and two fish—unless we are to go and buy food for all these people."

[14](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-14.html) For there were about five thousand men. And he said to his disciples, "Make them sit down in groups of about fifty each." [15](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-15.html) They did so and made them all sit down. [16](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-16.html) And taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke them, and gave them to the disciples to set before the crowd. [17](https://www.biblestudytools.com/nrs/luke/9-17.html) And all ate and were filled. What was left over was gathered up, twelve baskets of broken pieces.

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** *The Miracles of Miracles* By Rev. Shannon Weston

**THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

**\* HYMN**  *Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)* GTG #726

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,

Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?

Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?

Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,

And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide if I but call your name?

Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?

Will you use the faith you’ve found to reshape the world around,

Through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In your company I’ll go where your love and footsteps show.

Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

**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)

**We thank you for the gift of this table, bread, and wine and for meeting us here. Thank you for being our Creator, the Great I Am, our Prince of Peace, Emmanuel, Redeemer, Mighty Counselor, and Alpha and Omega. Thank you for all the ways you show up in our lives. May this meal satisfy our hunger and thirst as we seek to go out to live as changed people because when we meet at this table, we are transformed. Alleluia and amen.**

**PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

OFFERTORY

**\*** SONG OF THANKS  *Great God of Every Blessing* GTG #694 (v. 1)

Great God of every blessing, of faithful, loving care,

You are the fount of goodness, the daily bread we share.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start:

Sincerely and completely, I offer you my heart.

**\*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**\* HYMN** *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* GTG #526

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy:  
Bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

**Refrain**:  
Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again;   
Pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone,  
Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. **[Refrain]**

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere! **[Refrain]**

**\* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**\* UNISON AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

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

**Today 9/7** **Next Week 9/14**

Sunday Opener: Ron Holmes Linda Caviglia

Ushers/Greeters: Connie Gibbons Steve & Donna Mazer

Cynthia Smith

Lay Leader: Linda Black Tony Caviglia

Pulpit Supply: Rev. Shannon Weston Rev. Shannon Weston

Fellowship Hosts: Kat & Charley Imwold Linda Caviglia

Offering Count: Andrea Kwako & Ron H. Andrea Kwako & Beth Oates

Communion Servers: Beth Oates, Sue Holmes, and Ron Holmes

**Sunday September 14, 2025 Lectionary**

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 15:1-10

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

September 11 – Spencer McClung

September 13 – Mark Kearney

September 14 – Linda Caviglia

September 14 – Ron Grubb

**Announcements**

**Welcome!** We welcome Rev. Shannon Weston to our pulpit today! The Rev. Shannon Weston (she/her) is a Leadership Coach, Conflict Mediator, and Coach Trainer. Her work with pastors, church leaders, and nonprofits has been recognized as a valid ministry by the Presbytery of Baltimore. Before Coaching, Shannon served two decades as a pastor in the PCUSA, serving churches in Kentucky, New York, and Maryland. She lives in Lutherville with her husband Derrick and their four children.

**Upcoming Concert:** Mark your calendars for our first concert of the 2025-2026 concert series on **Sunday, September 14** at 3:00 pm in our Sanctuary. The program will feature Violinist Dr. Ahreum Kim and Pianist Dr. HyeSung Hwang. Dr. Kim is a faculty member at Peabody Preparatory of the Peabody Institute.

Dr. Hwang teaches at York College Pennsylvania and holds degrees from Seoul National University and the Peabody Conservatory. Together they bring their rich musical backgrounds and passion for performance to offer interpretations that deeply resonate with their audiences. Please join us for an afternoon of amazing music and good food and fellowship following the performance!

**Noisy Offering:** Thank you for your generosity! $139.85 is a wonderful start for our donation to Sykesville's Happy-thon celebration at Christmas when they use it to shop for gifts for some of the local children and their families. DownTown Sykesville hosts a wonderful party for the entire family with food, songs, games, and laughter. Donations will be accepted until December 7.

**Bible Study - "Together on Tuesday":** Rev. Amy Carlson, Mt. Hebron, has offered the zoom link to her Tuesday, 7:30 pm study T*he Word Became Flesh*, a study of John's Gospel. You can email her to be added to the mailing, which she usually emails out on Monday or Tuesday, at [amycarlson@mthebronpc.org](mailto:amycarlson@mthebronpc.org).

**Electronic Giving:** Below is a QR code you can scan to make your contribution a new way! The page you get will ask for your name, e-mail and phone number. You can choose from a dropdown menu for selecting where the donation should go: General Fund, Capital Fund, Concert, Memorial. There is a fee for using a credit card, and you will be given the option to pay that fee along with your donation, but you don’t have to include it in your donation if you don’t want to.

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***Today:***

**Sunday September 7**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

***This Week:***

**Monday September 8**

7:00 pm HeadHuggers (Manse)

**Wednesday September 10**

6:15 – 7:30 pm Bell Choir Practice

7:45 – 9:00 pm Adult Choir Practice

**Thursday September 11**

7:00 pm Session Meeting (Manse)

***Next Week:***

**Sunday September 14**

10:30 am Worship

11:30 am Fellowship

3:00 pm Concert (Sanctuary)

**Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, 10 am – 3 pm**

**Springfield Presbyterian Church**

10:30 am Worship (and Sunday School 1st & 3rd Sundays)

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/Accompanist:** Aaron Thacker

**Bell Choir Director:** Vacant

**Youth Group Coordinator:** Dylan Vasbinder

**Administrative Assistant:**Donna Mazer **Email:**[*spc.office@verizon.net*](mailto:spc.office@verizon.net)