



## Service for the Lord's Day

Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

October 22, 2023

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*\*Please stand, as you are able*

### GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

#### Chiming of the Hour

#### Welcome and Announcements

Haley Crew

#### Prelude

*Praise to the Living God*  
LEONI, traditional Hebrew melody

Edward Broughton

#### \*Call to Worship

Haley Crew

One: In this sacred hour of worship when we name things for what they really are,

**Many: we give to God what is God's.**

One: Between the demands of this last week and the demands of the one ahead,

**Many: we give to God what is God's.**

One: With open hearts and hands and minds, every innate gift from our loving Creator,

**Many: we give to God what is God's.**

#### \* Hymn 19

*God of Great and God of Small*

GOD OF GREAT

#### \*Prayer of Invocation (Unison)

deNay Kirkpatrick

(borrowed from Center for Faith & Giving)

**Mighty God, we rejoice in this time of worship, as we honor and praise your name. In a world where many seek to grab the headlines, you are ever-present, and ever vigilant, seeking all that is right and true for your creation. Open our ears, our eyes, and our hearts, that we might turn full attention to you. Inspire us to step fully into your ways of justice and equity both in our hearts and in our actions. Amen.**

## A Moment with the Children

*Children may choose to go to Junior Church after Children's Sermon*

# CONFESSING TO GOD

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Creator God, we are commanded to give to you what is branded as yours. But since we cannot see your face, we confess to a miserable confusion. Where is your image printed? Not on our coinage or our calendars. Not on any of the things we buy in the store or in the ad-laden videos that stream by us. No, the only place we can see your face is in our neighbor and in the mirror. We're the ones created in your image. Honestly, we'd rather pay you taxes, God, than give up our whole selves. But if we are what you want, heart, mind, soul, and strength — we'll do our best, God. We'll give our all to you. Amen.

## Silent Reflection

### Assurance of Pardon

One: Hear the good news! Our God, lover of justice, glories not in punishment but in redemption.

Many: **Christ has broken the power of sin and rescued us from our shame.**

One: Be at peace: we are forgiven, and we are free.

Many: **To God be the glory! Alleluia! Amen.**

### \* Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen, amen.**

# PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

## Prayer of Illumination

Haley Crew

### First Reading

**1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, 7 so that you became an

example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9 For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead — Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Search Me, O God*

Joshua Evanovich

Arnold Reichert and Kay Carter, solo/duet

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, O God, my Father,  
and know my heart; know my thoughts.

And see if there be anything keeping me from your presence,  
and lead me in Your ways, O Lord.

Search me, O God, and know my heart; try me, O God, my Father,  
and know my heart; reveal my thoughts and know my mind,  
and hide me in Your holiness. Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and let me know that all is well; the joy of knowing: all is well.

**Gospel Reading**

**Matthew 22:15-22**

15 Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. 16 So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" 18 But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" 21 They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." 22 When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

deNay Kirkpatrick

\* Hymn 329

*God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength*

WINCHESTER OLD

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

### \*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

(adapted from a Brief Statement of Faith)

One: In life and death we belong to God.

**Many: Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.**

One: We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father.

**Many: In sovereign love God created the world good, acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation, and makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.**

One: We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God.

**Many: Jesus proclaimed the reign of God, was crucified, and raised from the dead, delivering us from death to life eternal.**

One: We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

**Many: The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the church.**

One: In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

### Invitation to the Table and Prayer of Communion

(inspired by 1 Thessalonians 1,  
adapted from Center for Faith & Giving)

One: Paul, writing to the church in Thessalonica, commends the believers for their work of faith, labor of love, and steadfastness of hope in Jesus Christ. Wow! As we gather around this table of remembrance, I invite you to take a few moments to give thanks for people of faith you know or have known. Bring to mind someone whose works of faith have inspired you. (pause) Call up memories of someone whose labor of love has shown you the way to model your own life. (pause) And picture the person or people who remain steadfast in their hope in Jesus Christ. With these remembered ones, bring to the forefront your love for God, as we prepare to share in this feast of remembrance.

**Many: We come to this table thankful, for the abundance of God's world; thankful that there is more than enough food and grace to go around. We come, thankful that Jesus came to show us the way - the way of steadfast love and compassion, the way of forgiveness and unity. We come, thankful that the Spirit is alive in us and among us.**

One: We need to be at this table because there are wounds in the Body of Christ that need healing. There are members in this body who are hurting. There are neighbors who suffer - sisters and brothers, sons and daughters who do not have enough to eat or access to clean water. As we gather together in spirit, let us remember the tenacity of God's Love and the creative power of God's Spirit brooding over the face of the earth.

Let us pray:

- One: Merciful God, we give thanks for all of the rich treasures of your creation: for tiny seeds and giant trees, for grain, yeast, salt, and water, for fruit, soil and sunshine, for the things we grow and the mysteries of life, for the wonders and surprises in nature that startle us into gratitude.
- Many: Loving Christ, we give you thanks for all the treasures of relationships: for those who have gone before us in faith and courage, for family memories passed down, for the stories we tell in church that help us to see your goodness, for the Biblical narrative that sets the pattern for each of our lives and our life together.**
- One: Holy Spirit, we give you thanks: for the gift of this table around which we gather; for all who make nourishment and clean water possible; for this community that connects us in ever widening circles; and for the hope and vision of a time and place where everyone will have enough to eat and drink, and we will all sit at table as one body.

### Silent Reflection

- One: Now, as the Body of Christ, let us boldly pray as Christ taught us, saying:
- All: 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.**

### \*The Communion of Empty Hands

- One: Friends, here we gather for a communion of empty hands. The absence of a common loaf reflects a world of profound food insecurity, the absence of a cup filled to the brim reflects a world where water has become a precious commodity.
- Many: We gather in solidarity with all of God's children in need around the world – those who are hungry and have no food, those who are thirsty and have no access to clean water. We gather as truth-tellers, mindful of the stories that challenge injustice, inequality, racism and poverty. We gather remembering the stories that empower the powerless.**
- One: Here we gather remembering this story: On the night of his betrayal and arrest, Jesus sat at table with his followers and friends and shared a meal. After the meal, Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it, and invited all to take eat and remember. He took the cup, blessed it and invited all to take, drink and remember.
- Many: Now as we share in the communion of empty hands, we remember the church – breaking bread as Jesus did, pouring the wine and inviting all to taste and see that the Lord is good. We remember that the gifts of God are for all of the people of God.**
- One: Let us enact this holy meal in a spirit of unity: breaking the bread, and dipping the bread in the cup as Jesus did; sharing the feast as one.

*Communion liturgy adapted by Reverend Elizabeth O'Neil  
from "Visions of a World Hungry", by Thomas Pettepiece*

**\*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

*Donations of non-perishable food items will be distributed through our partnership with TEAM. As we receive the offering of special music, please bring your offerings of food or money for TEAM forward and place them in the baskets at the front of the sanctuary. Donations for the church and your pledge sheet may be placed in the offering plates in the front or rear of the sanctuary. Whether you are bringing forward a donation, or not, please come forward as you are able as a sign of communion with the whole church.*

**Offertory**

*Jesu, Word of God Incarnate*

C. Saint-Saens

**\*The Doxology**

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**\*Hymn 765**

*May the God of Hope Go with Us  
(singing 2 times through)*

ARGENTINA

**\*Charge and Blessing**

And all God's children say, "Alleluia! Amen!"

**\* Choral Benediction**

*Three-fold Amen*

Traditional

**\*Postlude**

*Except where noted, today's liturgy is provided by The Presbyterian Outlook,  
written by Carol Holbrook Prickett*

## ***Welcome to Cahaba Springs***

*We warmly welcome you* to worship this morning at Cahaba Springs! To learn more about our worship, learning, fellowship, and service opportunities, please pick up a copy of our calendar in the entryway or visit us online at [cspchurch.org](http://cspchurch.org). We encourage you to participate in any opportunity that interests you and hope you will return often.

**Children:** We welcome children of all ages in worship. Childcare is also available during worship, staffed by experienced workers. During the 11:00 am service, children are invited forward for a special message during *A Moment with the Children*, then may continue to worship with their family or go to Junior Church. Worship bags for children are available in the Narthex.

**Communion:** All are welcome at the table as we celebrate the Lord's Supper on the first Sunday of each month. If you prefer to remain seated during communion, an elder will be glad to bring the elements to you.

**Offering:** Offerings may be placed in the offering plates that will be passed around during the offertory, or you may give securely online through eOffering - an information sheet on eOffering is on the table in the entryway.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

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### *for our church family...*

Agnes Dauphinee	Nellie Songer	Margaret Linville	Wayne Hughins
Melissa Scholl	Jim Gillespie	Joan Lowery	Tom Lowery
Edward Giddens	Serena Jenkins	Jean Camp	Carol Brown
Ed Swartz, Jr.	Cecile Floyd	Chuck Smith	Betty Quattlebaum
Corbett Millar	Rosemary Holcomb	Julie Smith	Randy Little
Steve Goodwin			

### *for our extended family...*

Lisa Kraye Smith	Jennifer Lee	Grayson Pope	Sonia Burrage
Louis Scholl	Heather Hawkins	Virginia Yarbrough	Leslie Speakman
Joy Martin	Don McCants	Eleanor Garner	Jeff Strickland
Matthias	Ophelia Nichols	Gene Eades	Bobby Hoglund
Shelley Easterling	Barry Parvin	Aaron Dailey	Cindi Wesley
Mason Ford	Pat & Vicky McCann	Perry Johnson	Laura Stalls
Laura Rainey	C. J. Fonte	David Narkates	Deborah Braswell
Tommy Robbins	Kevin Little	Amy Baughman	Andy Lewis
Nancy Carlisle	Beth Lundberg	Bennett Fuller	Gene McKean
Philippe Lathrop			

### *grieving the loss of loved ones . . .*

the family and friends of Patti Winter  
the family of Bill Little

***If you need someone to drive you to doctor appointments or other necessary places, please call the church office. We have a list of people that will be glad to assist you.***

Sunday, November 12, at 2:00 PM, Edgewood Presbyterian church will host a retirement get-together in honor of Pat Fitzsimmons, long-time organist. Pat was the organist for Cahaba Springs Church for many years and moved with Amanda Klimko to work with her at Edgewood. Please join us in recognizing Pat on this special day. Questions? Call Laura Reichert 205-601-0327 or email Laura Reichert 2023@gmail.com



## **October/November Happenings at Cahaba Springs**

**TEAM Food Collection** – today. We will be collecting nonperishable food items for TEAM in Trussville.

**CSPC Book Club** – Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM in the Conference Room. This month's discussion led by Karen O'Brien will be on *The Stranger in the Lifeboat* by Mitch Albom.

**Three Hots & Cot** – Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. We will be collecting coffee (no decaf, please) and paper products for our veterans.

**Reformation Sunday** – Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. We will celebrate with a Kirkin of the Tartan or Blessing of the Family service.

**Fellowship Lunch** – Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship. Please bring a side, salad, or dessert; meat will be provided.

**Stated Session Meeting** – Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM.

**1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday Dinner** – Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at El Patron in Trussville.

**Knit Wits** – Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM

**XYZ Monthly Luncheon** – Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. We will have soups & salads.

**PW Monthly Luncheon & Study** – Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship. We will study Chapter 3 of *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* by Olive Mahabir. Please bring a side or dessert.

**Church Office Closed** – Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> in observance of Thanksgiving.

**TEAM Food Collection & Communion of Empty Hands** – Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup>. Please bring nonperishable food items for TEAM in Trussville.

**Decorating for Advent** – Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> immediately following worship. We really need everyone that can to stay and help make our church a beautiful place for the upcoming Advent season.

**Community Caroling & Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony** – Sunday, November 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 4:30 PM on the Trussville Mall. We will invite children to "write letters to Santa" with the assistance of our own Mrs. Claus.

**CSPC Book Club** – Tuesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 PM in Room 226 led by Karen O'Brien. This month's discussion will be on *The Sweetness of Water* by Nathan Harris.

## ***Classes Offered at Cahaba Springs***

***Reel to Real*** – Sundays at 9:30 AM in *Harmony Hall* led by Steve Goodwin. This is a discussion class based on movies and how they relate to us biblically. Some of the movies we will be discussing include:

Oct. 22 – What Women Want  
Oct. 29 – The Contender and/or  
The Candidate

Nov. 5 – Gladiator and/or Spartacus  
Nov. 12 – Lilies of the Field

***Growing in Grace & Gratitude*** -- Sundays at 9:30 AM. *The children grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the (grace) of God was upon them. – Luke 2:40.* Children nurtured in the love and grace of God learn the story of who and whose they are by watching, listening, tasting, smelling, playing, and exploring holy things in the context of a faith community. We welcome the children as God's beloved who will seek to follow Christ. We are in need of teachers, so if you would like to serve, please see Karen Brown or Linda Inzer. Please see below a schedule of teachers that have volunteered:

Oct. – Haley Crew  
Dec. – Lynda Mclean & Linda Inzer

Nov. – Liz Hughins

***Thursdays Together*** – Thursdays at 10:00 AM in the Conference Room led by George Fritsma. We are studying *It Was on Fire When I Lay Down on It* by Robert Fulghum. Quoting a man rescued from a burning bed, the title is a clue to the merriment in some of the essays collected here, inviting readers to laugh as they empathize with those who put themselves in absurd situations. These stories remind us that there is a clownish facet in everyone's character, one of the traits that make us human.

## ***Other Weekly Events***

***Chancel Choir*** – Thursdays at 6:30 PM.

***Chordmakers*** – Fridays at 5:30 PM in Harmony Hall. Please join us for good food, fun, fellowship, and of course music

***Birmingham Youth Group*** – Sundays, meeting at 4:20 PM at CSPC and traveling to various Presbyterian Churches. This is a gathering of youth from several Presbyterian Churches as a way to connect, socialize and learn. Transportation and dinner are provided. Contact Karen Brown for additional information.

## **Mission Projects**

**National First Responder Day** is October 28. CSPC will deliver treat baskets to local first responders to say thank you. If you see/ know a first responder, please remember to pray for their safety and thank them for their service to the community!

### **Mistletoe Market**

We are collecting new and like new toys and books for kids of all ages for local families in need. Donations can be placed in the safe room across from the choir room or given to Haley Crew. Please contact Haley with any questions!

### **THANK YOU!!**

Thank you so much to everyone who has given so generously to all of the missions supported by CSPC, but especially for the abundance of hygiene items that were sent to the Lovelady Center!

Acts 20: 35 "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

CAHABA SPRINGS  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

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A church where all people  
are welcomed and cared for,  
empowered to grow spiritually,  
and equipped to serve God  
and each other in meaningful ways