



## Service for the Lord's Day

Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

November 12, 2023

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*\*Please stand, as you are able*

### GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Cindy Brackenbury

Prelude

*Soliloquy*

Jay Rouse

"Whatever is true, whatever is pure, if anything is excellent or praiseworthy, think on these things...and the God of peace will be with you."  
Philippians 4: 8-9

**\*Call to Worship** (Psalm 78:1-7)

Cindy Brackenbury

One: Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

**Many: We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and God's might, and the wonders that he has done.**

One: The Lord established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which God commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,

**Many: So that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep God's commandments.**

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

deNay Kirkpatrick

**Eternal God, you are from everlasting to everlasting. Though the span of human life is brief, you are infinite. Centuries ebb and give way to millennia, yet you are the same. You have been our dwelling place in all generations, our protector in the storms of life. We praise you and we thank you for your boundless mercy that sustains us all of our days, through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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)**

**Holy God, your way for us is clear: We are to live so that the manner of our lives speaks of your goodness, your generosity, your infinite mercy. Too often, though, we forget the purposes for which you made us. Too often, when we might meet inhumanity with the reflection of your goodness, we turn aside. We return unkindness for unkindness. We cling to what might be shared. We avoid those who are not like us. We fail to give grace in the measure we have received it. Forgive us, we pray. Remind us that your goodness is enduring, and your mercy is everlasting, for we pray all these things in the name of our savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Silent Reflection**

**Assurance of Pardon**

(Ephesians 2:8-10)

**One:** By grace we have been saved through faith, and this is not our own doing: it is the gift of God, not the result of works, so that no one might boast.

**Many:** **For we are what God has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.**

**One:** Believe the promise of the gospel:

**Many:** **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven**

**\* 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**

Cindy Brackenbury

**First Reading**

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

This is the Word of God for the people of God

**Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*Psalm 139*

Allen Pote

Lord, you have searched me and known me,  
You know everything I do, when I rise up,  
when I lie down, you are with me through and through.  
Before a word is on my tongue, you know what I will say  
Your presence follows me day by day.  
Where can I flee from your spirit? Where can I go to run away?  
If I go to heaven, or live in hell, you are there.  
Lord, you have searched me and known me,  
You know everything I do, when I rise up,  
when I lie down, you are with me through and through.  
Before a word is on my tongue, you know what I will say  
Your presence follows me day by day.  
Search me, O God, and know me, try me and know my heart.  
See if there be any wicked way in me,  
and lead me in the way everlasting. Amen.

**Gospel Reading**

Matthew 25:1-13

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy

some for yourselves. '10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us. '12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you. '13 Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

This is the Word of God for the people of God  
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

deNay Kirkpatrick

\* Hymn 772

*Live into Hope*

TRURO

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

\***Affirmation of Faith** (*Unison*) (from A Brief Statement of Faith amended for inclusive language)

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image of all genders, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory

*Rock of Ages*

arr. Alice Jordan

\* 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

deNay Kirkpatrick

Prayers of the People

Silent Prayer

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

## SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

|   |   |                      |
|---|---|----------------------|
| *Hymn 463                                     | How Firm a Foundation<br>(verses 1, 2, and 5) | FOUNDATION           |
| *Charge                                       |   | (Colossians 3:13-15) |
| * Benediction                                 |   | (Numbers 6:24-26)    |
| And all God's children say, "Alleluia! Amen!" |   |                      |
| * Choral Benediction                          | Three-fold Amen                               | Traditional          |
| *Postlude                                     | Allegro Appassionato                          | Norman Landis        |

*Liturgy provided by The Presbyterian Outlook, written by Baron Mullis*

### **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   | David Goodwin    | Cynthia Sartin    |                   |

### *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     | Chloe Lundberg     | Bennett Fuller     | Gene McKean      |
| Philippe Lathrop   | Joe Pat Bludsworth |                    |                  |

***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.***

## **November Happenings at Cahaba Springs**

**XYZ Monthly Luncheon** – Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM. We will have a covered dish meal and follow with a few games of bingo. Please bring your favorite dish.

**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. We are having soup; please bring a side or dessert.

**Church Office Closed** – Wednesday, November 22<sup>nd</sup> and 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.

**TODAY** 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](mailto:Laura.Reichert.2023@gmail.com)

## ***Mission Projects***

### **Presbyterian Home for Children**

We are collecting wish list items for females ages 13-17. Brands of choice include Dove, Suave, Kantu, and Cream of Nature products for hair and body. Wishes: press on nails, eyelashes, makeup, nail polish, costume jewelry, and crossword/puzzle books. Items may be placed under the tree in the narthex.



**The Mistletoe Market** will be held on Saturday, December 16 in Harmony Hall. We, along with other TEAM churches, are collecting new and like-new toys to provide to families who are already utilizing TEAM resources. Specific times will be announced in the coming weeks and any helping hands are appreciated! Please contact Haley Crew ([hnsPaul1@gmail.com](mailto:hnsPaul1@gmail.com)) with any questions.

### **Rise Against Hunger**

Southminster Presbyterian Church has invited CSPC to participate in a Rise Against Hunger fundraiser and meal-packing event on January 27th from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. This promises to be a fun event, and all are invited! Rise Against Hunger is an organization that provides meals at a very low cost for families worldwide. To learn more about them check out their website by scanning the QR code below.





## ***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.

November 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:

Nov. – Linda Inzer

Dec. – Lynda Mclean & Linda Inzer

Jan. – 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.

## ***Coming in December***

***PHFC Workday*** – Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. We will join with groups from other churches to decorate the Home for Christmas.

***“How Does a Weary World Rejoice”*** will be our theme for the Advent and Christmas Seasons beginning with the first Sunday of Advent on Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Be on the lookout for the Advent Devotional Booklet based on our theme. We will be sending this out via email the first week of December. If you would rather have a paper copy, please let the church office know.

***Lessons and Carols*** – Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> the 11:00 am worship time. Joe and Kay Carter, along with our choir have been working hard to bring us a memorable and meaningful service.

***December Fellowship Luncheon*** will be held on December 10<sup>th</sup>, instead of the first Sunday in December, to celebrate the service of Lessons and Carols.

***1st Annual Mistletoe Market*** -- Saturday, December 16 in Harmony Hall. See the Mission Report for further information or contact Haley Crew.

***Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service*** – Thursday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 PM. What is a blue Christmas/Longest Night service? It is a worship service that names and holds space for the sadness that can accompany the holidays. Heightened by the advertising of our consumerist culture, there is a definite Christmas ideal that includes neatly iced gingerbread houses, smiling children, and an excessive amount of neatly wrapped packages. These standards and the church’s sometimes solitary focus on joy can make the holidays an isolating time for anyone who can’t muster happiness or meet the criteria. A Blue Christmas/Longest Night service is an invitation for anyone who wants to come and set their burden down, for a community to hold pain collectively.

***Candle-light Christmas Eve Service*** -- December 24<sup>th</sup> during our 11:00 am worship time.

***Children, Youth, & College Sunday*** – Sunday, December 31<sup>st</sup> where we will celebrate Communion of Empty hands benefitting T.E.A.M. and Three Hots and a Cot.

***More events to follow in the coming weeks***



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