



Service for the Lord's Day

Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

November 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost

**Please stand, as you are able*

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Laura Reichert

Prelude

The Gift of Love
Traditional English Melody

arr. David Lowe

***Call to Worship**

Laura Reichert

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling place;

Many: we come today to rest in you.

One: You have been the voice that guides us;

Many: we come today to listen.

One: You have been the host who feeds us;

Many: we come today to be filled.

One: You have been our joy and crown;

Many: we come today to sing your praise!

*** Hymn 336**

We Gather Together

KREMSER

***Prayer of Invocation (Unison)**

deNay Kirkpatrick

Now, in the silence, when we struggle to control our lives, may we, once again, empty ourselves of our pride and fears, to be filled with your hope. Now, in these moments, when we cannot let go of our worries and doubts, may we, once again, open our hands to hold your faith. Now, on this day which is only and always your gift to us, may we, once again, live into your kingdom. 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)

Merciful God, we confess that once again, we have done what is evil in your sight. We've made mistakes. We've made missteps. We have hurt people, by action and inaction. We have wounded creation, by action and inaction. We have chosen our ways over yours, by action and inaction. And if the sum total of what we have done and what we have not done adds up to evil in your sight, then in your sight we ask you to turn us towards goodness. Forgive our past, and shape our future that we might build your kingdom here. In the strong name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

One: Hear the good news! Who is our God?

Many: **Slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

One: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

Many: **We are forgiven, rescued and redeemed. 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

Laura Reichert

First Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! 4 But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; 5 for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. 6 So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; 7 for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

Anthem

Give Thanks

arr. Vicki Courtney

with "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
*Praise God from whom all blessing flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.*
And now let the weak say, "I am strong,"
Let the poor say, "I am rich" because of
what the Lord has done for us, give thanks.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:14-30

14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. 20 Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 24 Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; 25 so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 26 But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 29 For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. 30 As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

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

Sermon

deNay Kirkpatrick

* Hymn 468

In My Life, Lord, Be Glorified

LORD BE GLORIFIED

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*) (adapted from the Confession of 1967)

One: God's redeeming work in Jesus Christ embraces the whole of our life.

Many: **It is the will of God that God's purpose for human life shall be fulfilled under the rule of Christ and all evil be banished from creation.**

One: Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption.

Many: **With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world.**

One: It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat.

Many: **In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

Call for the Offering

Offertory

A Poem of Thanks
based on Nun danket alle Gott
"Now Thank We, All Our God"

Johann Crüger
Kevin Cummings

* 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 634

To God Be the Glory

GOD BE THE GLORY

*Charge and Blessing

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

* Choral Benediction

Go Now in Peace

Don Besig

*Postlude

Trumpet Recessional in G major

Franklin Ritter

Liturgy provided by The Presbyterian Outlook, written by Rev. 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. 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

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

PW Monthly Luncheon & Study – today 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 22nd and Thursday, November 23rd in observance of Thanksgiving.

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

Decorating for Advent – Sunday, November 26th 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 26th 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 28th 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.

Pledge Sunday Update

(it's not too late to return your pledge):

25 pledges received to date (a 28% increase from last year)

7 new pledging units

\$40,000 away from our proposed budget of \$165,500

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. Please have all gifts at the church by Sunday, November 26th.



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) 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.

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 1st. 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 3rd. 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.

Stated Session Meeting – Sunday, December 3rd immediately following worship.

1st Tuesday Dinner – Tuesday, December 5th at 6:00 PM at El Patron in Trussville.

Lessons and Carols – Sunday, December 10th during 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. Our ***December Fellowship Luncheon*** will be following the service.

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

PW Christmas Luncheon – Sunday, December 17th immediately following worship. We will study Chapter 4 of *Sacred Encounters: The Power and Presence of Jesus Christ in Luke-Acts* by Olive Mahabir.

XYZ Christmas Luncheon – Tuesday, December 12th at 11:30 AM in Harmony Hall. Please bring your favorite side, salad, or dessert; meat will be provided and afterwards The Leeds Connection (TLC) will entertain us with their beautiful voices.

Blue Christmas/Longest Night Service – Thursday, December 21st 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 24th during our 11:00 am worship time.

Church Office Closed – Monday, December 26th & Tuesday, December 27th.

CSPC Book Club – Tuesday, December 26th at 5:30 PM in Room 226 led by Karen O’Brien. This month’s discussion will be on *The Women of Christmas* by Liz Curtis Higgs.

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

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