



Service for the Lord's Day

Christ the King/Reign of Christ Day

Pastor deNay Kirkpatrick

November 26, 2023

**Please stand, as you are able*

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Announcements

Jennifer Smith

Prelude

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

John Darwall
arr. Peter Benjamin

*Call to Worship

One: We come, for God gathers us here, with that community called faith:

Many: where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life's water.

One: We come, for God welcomes us here into that home called grace:

Many: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope; where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.

One: We come, for God reunites us here, sisters and brothers in that family called love:

Many: where the imprisoned model justice, where the sick are cradled in God's peace.

* Hymn 645

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

***Prayer of Invocation (Unison)**

deNay Kirkpatrick

Searcher of the scattered: where the bullies and biased have gorged themselves at cruelty's banquet, you will serve them justice for dessert. Where the wounded are turned away by indifference, you will bandage them in the swaddling clothes of hope. Where the hungry press their foreheads against the windows at Chez Plenty, you will open wide the doors, having made reservations for us all. Bringer of justice: when we would push the outsiders further away, you pull them closer to your heart. When we would shove the next-to-nothings aside to get to the front of the line, you pick them up to keep them next to you. When we scatter our gifts, throwing them away on foolishness, you gather them up and give them back to us saying, 'here, try again.' Spirit of common sense: as soon as we wander into the shadows of selfishness, you open the eyes of our hearts so we can see that place called home. As soon as we think we can find you only in the rich and powerful, you humble us with the grace of Jesus. God in Community, Holy in One, gather us into your presence,

A Moment with the Children

Ron Dauphinee

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

CONFESSING TO GOD

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

We stock the food pantries but brush aside those who hunger for friendship. We give our hand-me-downs away but overlook those whose hopes have been stripped away. We glad-hand those just like us but turn a deaf ear to our neighbors who 'talk funny.' Forgive us, Hope of the ages. You persistently search for us in the side streets of the world, gathering us up and bringing us home, so we may be drenched in the waters of your bottomless pool of forgiveness, watched over by your Child, Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

One: God searches for the lost,

Many: and finds us;

One: God invites the hungry to the table,

Many: and feeds us;

One: God sends Jesus,

Many: and frees us from death's prison;

One: God forgives all who sin,

Many: and heals us with mercy and grace. Thanks be to God. 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

First Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason
16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. 17 I pray that the God of our
Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to
know him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to
which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what
is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great
power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at
his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and
above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. 22 And he has put all
things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body,
the fullness of him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of God for the people of God

Thanks be to God.

Anthem

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Shelley/Ahnfelt

Joe Carter, organ Kay Carter, piano

arr. Don Phillips

The King of love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:31-46

31 "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne
of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from
another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right
hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are
blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35 for I
was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger
and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I
was in prison and you visited me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And when was it
that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it
that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you,
just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' 41 Then

he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' 45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

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

Sermon

deNay Kirkpatrick

* Hymn 630

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADERS HYMN

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

*Affirmation of Faith (*Unison*)

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Invitation to the Table and the Prayer of Communion (for Communion of Empty Hands)

One: This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. We gather here - at this table of grace - to celebrate the goodness of God and the abundance of God's love. In a spirit of unity, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who are here for the first time, you who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come as God's beloved, beautiful and blessed.

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.

Prayers of the People

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

The Lord's Prayer

Now, as the Body of Christ, let us boldly pray as Christ taught us, saying:

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.**

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 T.E.A.M.
As we receive the offering of special music, please bring your offerings forward and place them in the
baskets at the front of the sanctuary.*

Offertory

Largo sostenuto

Samuel Wesley

*** 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

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

***Hymn 620**

Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

LAUDA ANIMA

***Charge and Blessing**

One: We will go now into God's world:

Many: to bring healing to the sick and hope to the despairing.

One: We will go now to serve Jesus' sisters and brothers:

**Many to offer a hand to those who have fallen, to put a warm coat around those who
shiver in the cold.**

One: We will go now to share the Spirit with everyone we meet:

**Many: to be a companion to those in prisons as well as those bound by injustice, to bring
the cup of grace to every parched soul.**

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

*** Choral Benediction**

Go with Us, Lord

TALLIS' CANON

***Postlude**

*Improvisation on DIADEMATA
"Crown Him with Many Crowns"*

George Blake

Unless otherwise noted, the liturgy adapted from Lectionary Liturgies, written by Thom M. Shuman

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	Joe Pat Bludsworth	Bennett Fuller	Gene McKean
Philippe Lathrop			

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/December Happenings at Cahaba Springs

TEAM Food Collection & Communion of Empty Hands – today. Please bring nonperishable food items for TEAM in Trussville.

Decorating for Advent – today 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 – today 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.

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.

Knit Wits – Saturday, December 9th at 10:00 AM in the Ladies’ Room.

Lessons and Carols – Sunday, December 10th during the 11:00 am during 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 follow the service.

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. Afterwards The Leeds Connection (TLC) will entertain us with their beautiful voices.

1st Annual Mistletoe Market -- Saturday, December 16th 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.

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 25th & Tuesday, December 26th.

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.

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. Today is the last day to bring items.



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.



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