

**November 3, 2024**  
**Coming Together: Respect**

**WELCOME**

**PRELUDES (A Time for Quiet Meditation)**

*Consecration and Remembrance*  
*Meditation on "For All the Saints"*

*Lani Smith*  
*Dennis Janzer*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRAYER CONCERNS AND REQUESTS**

**COMING TOGETHER**

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Christ Has Broken Down the Walls*  
*(verse 1)*

***Christ has broken down the wall, Christ has broken down the wall.***  
***Let us join our hearts as one, Christ has broken down the wall.***

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**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Creator God, we ask you to come close and remind us that we are your beloved children, for we sometimes feel distant. Open our eyes to the beauty and pain within us, and invite us to "do unto others" in ways that build up your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. We pray this in the mercy of God who heals, and in the name of Jesus that holds, and in the power of the Spirit that transforms. **Amen.**

**\*OPENING SONG #336**

*We Gather Together*  
*(verse 1)*

*Kremser*

***We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.***

*(verse 2)*

***Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side; all glory be thine!***

*(verse 3)*

**We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

As we bring ourselves into this time of confession, God, in your mercy, forgive and transform us:

\*Please stand as you are able.

## **RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

For all the ways we burden each other – with expectations, judgments, and our own fears...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

For all the ways we squander right relationship – choosing being “right” over being together...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

For all the ways we abuse our freedom – engaging in hateful speech towards those not on “our” side...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

For all the ways we deny equality and belovedness for all – deeming some “in” and others “out”...

**God, in your mercy, forgive and transform.**

*(Time of Silence)*

## **ASSURANCE OF GOD’S PARDON**

One: Jesus said, “I have come to set the prisoner free.” No matter what binds you this day, freedom is yours through new life in Christ. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, set free.

**All: Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## **SONG OF RESPONSE**

*Christ Has Broken Down the Walls*

*(verse 2)*

***We’re accepted as we are, we’re accepted as we are.***

***Through God’s love all is reconciled; we’re accepted as we are.***

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## **PEACE ACROSS THE DIVIDE (projected)**

### **\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And, also, with you.**

## **WORD**

### **UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God of Wisdom and Grace, you speak through your Word read and proclaimed. Prepare us now to listen well. Open our ears to your truth. Humble us in your presence so nothing will stand in the way of what you say to us today. Amen.**

### **FIRST SCRIPTURE READING** *Psalm 36:5-10*

Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens,

**Your faithfulness to the clouds.**

Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains,

**Your judgments are like the great deep...**

\*Please stand as you are able.

How precious is your steadfast love, O God!

**All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.**

They feast on the abundance of your house,

**And you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

*Be Thou My Vision*  
Performed by: Ron Cechner

*Traditional, arr. by*  
*Nathan Pacheco*

### **SECOND SCRIPTURE READING**

*I Corinthians 12:4-7, 12-26*

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

<sup>14</sup> Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. <sup>15</sup> If the foot would say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>16</sup> And if the ear would say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” that would not make it any less a part of the body. <sup>17</sup> If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? <sup>18</sup> But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. <sup>19</sup> If all were a single member, where would the body be? <sup>20</sup> As it is, there are many members yet one body. <sup>21</sup> The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you,” nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” <sup>22</sup> On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, <sup>23</sup> and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect, <sup>24</sup> whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, <sup>25</sup> that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. <sup>26</sup> If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

### **SERMON**

*“Respect”*

*Rev. Dr. John Wahl*

### **UNISON AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from A Declaration of Faith of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and The Shorter Catechism)**

**God bound his people to himself in covenant. Freed slaves became the people of God when they accepted the Lord’s covenant. God charged them to respond to his rescuing love by obeying his commandments. Their life together was to express the justice and compassion of their holy God. Since we, too, are the Lord’s covenant people, we know we must be holy as the Lord is holy. We must keep God’s commandments, not in**

**order to earn or compel the Lord's favor, but to reflect the character of God and to be his grateful and loving people. What is the sum of the Ten Commandments? The sum of the Ten Commandments is: to love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind; and our neighbor as ourselves. Amen.**

## **WITNESS**

### **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

*We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available for making monetary donations.*

### **OFFERTORY**

*For This We Pray*

*Tom Birchwood*

### **PRAYERS FOR OURSELVES AND OTHERS**

### **INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

### **SONG OF PREPARATION**

*Christ Has Broken Down the Walls  
(verse 3)*

***Cast aside your doubts and fears, cast aside your doubts and fears.  
Peace and love, freely offered here; cast aside your doubts and fears.***

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### **PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Liberating God be with you!

**And, also, with you!**

Lift up your hearts with joy!

**We lift them up to God!**

Let us give praise to the Author of Freedom!

**It is right to give our thanks and praise!**

It is right, and a good and holy thing to give our praise to you this day, Liberator of all humankind. You unleashed your creative power, and a world blossomed. You bestowed upon every living thing life and breath, color and movement. No matter how many battles we wage within and between ourselves and against you, your promise, vision, and gifts of peace and abundance continue.

And, so, we lift up our voices in celebration of You!

**Holy, holy, holy are You!**

We join all the prophets and saints!

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory!**

We join the parade of justice!

**Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord!**

We add our cries and exclamations!

**Hosanna in the highest!**

Holy are you and blessed is your son, Jesus. To those who were imprisoned by status, law, illness, poverty, gender, age, and disease, he said, "your belief has set you free. You are a child of God." He invited disciples, friends, and strangers alike to his tables. He proclaimed God's grace to all with whom he broke bread. He proclaimed God's love to all with whom he shared the cup.

And he told us to remember:

**You are one at this table, the table of grace.**

For Christ has died, Christ has risen,

**And Christ comes again in this meal we eat together.**

Holy Spirit, transform this meal and transform this body so that we might be free to love without condition, invite without hesitation, go without reservation, and proclaim your love to all the world.

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP**

### **UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**Gracious God, at this table, and in your mercy, we have been nourished by the living bread, Jesus Christ, and we have been refreshed by the power of your Holy Spirit through the cup of salvation. May we, who have shared this holy meal, go out as glad disciples of our Lord, following in his way, proclaiming his truth, and living his love for the world. Amen.**

### **\*SENDING SONG #526**

*Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

*Linstead*

*(verse 1)*

***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. Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

*(verse 2)*

***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. Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

*(verse 3)*

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God everywhere! Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!***

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### **\*BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Go Forth in Faith*

*Franklin Ritter*

Adapted liturgy used with permission by Marcia McFee,  
[www.worshipdesignstudio.com/kindness](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/kindness)

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### Flowers

The flowers this morning are dedicated by Barbara Anderson in celebration of Jennifer & Grace's birthday.

### CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items to help stock the shelves at Chagrin Falls Park Community Center in October:



**Cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, canned turkey gravy, Stove Top stuffing mix, cooking oil, mayonnaise, butter, celery, white potatoes, onions, eggs, sweet relish, TURKEY, green beans, corn, corned bread mix, broth, cream mushroom, elbow macaroni, pie, or anything you would like to donate.**

### **CFPCC HOLIDAY SCHEDULE 2024**

**November 15**

Thanksgiving food deadline

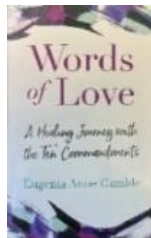
**November 22**

Thanksgiving food pick up for families

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

### Sarah Circle – Tuesday, November 12

Sarah Circle 2024-2025 meetings are on the second Tuesday of each month, September through May, at 10:30 a.m. in the church library.



**This year's study is:**

***"Words of Love" by Eugenia Gamble***

All are welcome for membership or just a visit.

Contact Glenna Pool with any questions.

### Mid-week Lunch Group – November 13



All are welcome to gather for lunch together at Buckeye Café (located across from the church in Tanglewood Square) at noon on the second Wednesday of each month (November 13, December 11, January 8, etc.) for a time of good food, great coffee, and even better conversations.

## Knitting For Others



Inviting all folks from 12-100 years of age, who like to knit or who would like to learn, to be a part of Valley's Knitting Group.

**The group will meet 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.** (come when your schedule allows):

**Sunday, November 10**

**Sunday, November 24**

This group has been busy knitting prayer blankets and shawls for members of our congregation. It takes a lot of yarn to knit or crochet these items. Many of us have made items in the past but not used quite all of the yarn. Knitting for Others can use the leftover yarn to make items to share with others. If you have any worsted size-4 or bulky size-5 yarn that you will not be using and could share with Knitting for Others, we certainly would appreciate your donation. Yarn can be left in the box marked "yarn" in the Library. Thank you so much for your help.

For questions, please call one of our Co-Chairs, Beverly or Bev:

Beverly Wahl  
502-553-7255

Bev Keough  
330-888-5385

## Lunch and Table Conversations

**Sunday, November 17**

**Noon–1:30 p.m.**

**Bainbridge Social Hall**

## Take-out Community Meal



Community Meal

**Tuesday, November 19**

**4:00 - 5:30 p.m.**

This month, we will, again, be engaging in our community meal program: preparing dinners to be available for pick-up or delivery. These meals are our gift to the community: to anyone who is in need of an evening of not cooking or the love that goes into making the food.

**Menu: Glazed Chicken, Roasted Winter Vegetables, Green Beans, Cornbread, Assorted Pies**

If you are interested in helping, we will be cooking meals from 9:30-11:30 a.m.; assembling from 3-4 p.m.; and distributing / delivering from 4-5:30 p.m. In addition, if you would like to bake a pie (your recipe of choice) at home, please drop off by 10 a.m. on November 19th.

To sign up to volunteer or for the meal, see the weekly e-mail, church website, or November Valley Voice.

## Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:  
**Friday, November 22, 2024**  
(1 p.m. – 4 p.m.)  
**Saturday, November 23, 2024**  
(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Pass-it-on is accepting donations. Please contact Brenda Wahl at  
440-829-7841 or [passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com](mailto:passitonamissionoflove@gmail.com).

### Thank You!!

To the wonderful folks at Valley, thank you so much for the kindness you have shown me in these months I've been away; in your notes to me, your texts, your phone calls. It means a lot to me, and reminds me that you care for me. Thank you. And to the Knitters in our midst, your loving hands have created a warm wrap that I wind around myself every evening. It's so lovely, and I thank you for it. I, also, appreciate your prayers! Valley is a wonderful church!

Love, Pat Nichols

*Thank  
You*

#### **VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**[www.valleypresbychurch.org](http://www.valleypresbychurch.org)**

**VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345**

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Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan  
Liturgist: Ruth Gurd

Organist: John Kautzman  
Greeter: Lillian Smyser