The Stone Church of Willow Glen
- Presbyterian Church (USA)
San José, California
February 7, 2021 - 9:30 a.m.
5th Sunday after Epiphany

Communion Sunday

The Preparation for the Word

Prelude
Pam Hood, Interim Organist

Welcome
The Rev. Sammie Evans, Pastor

Call to Worship
Nancy Paul, Deacon
Suzanne Wolf & Chris Nilson, Congregational Responders

We gather to worship God, whose creative imagination never fails:
For the sake of God, we will search for the outcasts.
We gather to praise our God, whose steadfast love never weakens:
For the sake of Jesus, we will lift up all who have fallen.
We gather to offer our best to God, who walks with us through eternity:
For the sake of the Holy Spirit, we will walk with the weary.
Let us worship God!

Opening Hymn #138
“Holy, Holy, Holy”

We will no longer be posting the scores in the bulletins. The words to the hymns are posted in the worship videos, and if you would like to follow along with the music, we recommend using the Presbyterian Hymnal. If you would like to borrow a hymnal from the church, please contact Pastor Sammie (sammie_evans@stonechurch.org). You can also purchase them used from sites such as thriftbooks.com.
Call to Confession
If we come before God and one another with open hearts and honest words, we will not be pushed away, but wrapped in God’s loving arms and embraced by the forgiveness and restoration found in the Beloved Community. We pray and hope together that through our confession, we will be evermore bound together in love. Let us pray...

Prayer of Confession
Everlasting God, we cannot hide from you even if we were to go from one edge of creation to the next. You speak to us of compassion, but the ways in which we treat others show we have not been listening. You explain your hopes to us, and we act as if we don't have a clue as to what is going on. You call us to follow you, and yet we admit we are afraid of what we will look like if we did so boldly.

Forgive us. Take us by the hand to show us the way to life with you. Heal our broken hearts so we can offer them to others. Fill us with your loving Spirit and bind us to one another, that through Christ, all of your children might know love, healing, and wholeness. Amen.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace Liturgy

We Listen to God’s Word

The Old Testament Reading  Isaiah 40:21-31

Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.
Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, ‘My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God’? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Anthem

“Locus Iste” by Anton Bruckner
sung in 2018 by Chancel Choir; Peggy Spool, Substitute Director

Locus iste a Deo factus est, This place was made by God,  
inaestimabile sacramentum, a priceless sacrament;  
irreprehensibilis est. it is without reproach.

Children’s Sermon

Mary Jo Blazek, Church School Administrator

The Gospel Reading

Mark 1:29-39

As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. And the whole city was gathered around the door. And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. And Simon and his companions hunted for him. When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon

The Rev. Sammie Evans
We Respond to the Good News

Call for the Offering

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Use Stone’s PayPal account via the “donate” button at <a href="https://www.stonechurch.org/">https://www.stonechurch.org/</a>; keep in mind that PayPal takes 2.9% + 30¢ per transaction of the amount as a service fee, so you may want to adjust your gift accordingly.</th>
<th>Use your own PayPal account to “send money” (without a fee) to <a href="mailto:office_manager@stonechurch.org">office_manager@stonechurch.org</a>, using “friends and family” and your checking account, for which there are no fees. Enter a memo to specify the reason for the donation.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sign-up for an automatic withdrawal from your checking. Contact <a href="mailto:office_manager@stonchurch.org">office_manager@stonchurch.org</a> for more info.</td>
<td>Use your bank’s online bill pay to send a check to Stone Church.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mail check: 1937 Lincoln Ave, SJ Ca 95125</td>
<td>Drop your check off in the locked mail box outside the office door.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Offertory

“Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele”
(Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness) Op. 122 no. 5

Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Dedication of the People and Their Gifts Hymn #592

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Savior, Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

Sacrament of Communion

Welcome & Invitation

The Lord be with you
And also with you
Lift up your hearts
We lift them up to the Lord
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God
It is good and right to give thanks and praise

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Words of Institution

Sharing of Bread & Cup
Prayer after Communion & 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.

We Go Out in God’s Name

Closing Hymn #85 “What Wondrous Love is This”

We will no longer be posting the scores in the bulletins. The words to the hymns are posted in the worship videos, and if you would like to follow along with the music, we recommend using the Presbyterian Hymnal. If you would like to borrow a hymnal from the church, please contact Pastor Sammie (sammie_evans@stonechurch.org). You can also purchase them used from sites such as thriftbooks.com.

Charge and Benediction

Postlude “Solfeggietto in C minor” H. 220
Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach (1714-1788)

ASL Interpreter ~ Hannah Pahl

Zoom Worship Coordinator ~ The Rev. Sammie Evans
Backup ~ The Rev. Irene Pak Lee

Photo images used during the hymns are taken and prepared by Rod Thorn.
Original bulletin art created by Willow Glen Artist Lynden Keith Johnson.
Music – All rights reserved A706560

Announcements

Today’s Retable Floral Display features camellias from Tab’s house.

Adult Ed (11 am) -- Poetry and imagination continues as the subject of the next two Adult Ed Zoom meetings.

Dial by your location
+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

Find your local number: https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kcKqL54Ade
Stepping Stones Choir rehearsal today, immediately following the service (10:45 to 11:15). To join the rehearsal, please contact Peggy at peggy@thespools.net for a Zoom link.

Stone Church & Office Temporarily Closed – We were notified last week that two of our employees tested positive for COVID-19. Stone Church employees, and any members that they may have been in contact with those employees, have been notified. Our custodial staff has disinfected the offices, as well as the sanctuary, and will continue to maintain the buildings. We will monitor the situation, but most likely our buildings will remain closed for another week. Currently the employees and their families are doing well. We will keep you updated.

Shelter in Place Drop-in Group meets twice monthly via Zoom. This next meeting is Wed, Feb 17th (10am). This group, offered by Kathleen O’Brien, gives people support during this difficult pandemic time. Many people feel isolated and frustrated with the limitations on life and need some way to connect with others. As the name implies, this is a drop-in group, so you don’t need to attend every meeting, just when you feel the need. For the meeting link, please contact Kathleen (Kathleenobrien2004@gmail.com, 1-408-499-9275).

During Lent, members of the Presbytery’s CORE and the PJWG will be facilitating multi-week online gatherings with guided readings and reflection that will allow us to learn and process our grief as connected to racial injustice in our world. While we have all been harmed by racial injustice, the harm can look radically different depending on the color of our skin. Our hope is that reflecting and healing with people who have had similar experiences first will allow us to better come together to work on our collective healing in our church communities and beyond. If you identify racially as white, learn more and register here for the Roots Deeper than Whiteness offering which begins Sun, Feb 21st (4pm). If you identify racially as black, indigenous, person of color, or multiracial, contact Rev. Annanda Barclay (core@sanjosepby.org) for more information about the Crossroads Antiracism Training offering. A registration link and details will be made available in the coming weeks.

Storage Boxes Needed -- Hold off on delivering boxes until the office re-opens, but ....before the Lincoln House project begins the church library books need to be packed up and moved out. We’d like the boxes to be a standard size -- about 9.5 x 12 x 12, with flaps. Last time we moved the library we used wine boxes of this size from Trader Joe’s, and it worked well.

PWP March Virtual Gathering -- On Sun, Mar 14th (2:30pm) our special program celebrates the passage of the 19th Amendment that recognized women’s right to vote. Author Angelica Shirley Carpenter will share the story of Matilda Joslyn Gage from her two latest books, Born Criminal (a biography) and The Voice of Liberty (a picture book). Everyone is welcome. Zoom link for the program: https://tinyurl.com/pwpmar21

On-line Calendar -- Our website (www.stonechurch.org) has a link to our church calendar. Most things are, of course, on hold, but many of our groups are still meeting via Zoom. In some cases, the Zoom meeting link is included in the event description. Click on a calendar entry and a window will pop up listing event information.

2020 Year-End Statements were mailed. Questions? --contact office_manager@stonechurch.org.

Capital Campaign donations will be visible on your year-end statement. The amount of your 3-year pledge and the total paid to date will show, along with the over/under column; that will show the balance owed for this last year of the campaign. If you have questions about your Capital Campaign, please contact office_manager@stonechurch.org.
The pastors’ day off is Monday.
Email is the best way to reach the pastors, and all other staff.

The Rev. Sammie Evans (Pastor)  
sammie_evans@stonechurch.org
The Rev. Irene Pak Lee (Assoc. Pastor)  
irene_pak@stonechurch.org
The Rev. Sharon LeClaire (Stated Supply)  
sharon.j.leclaire@gmail.com
The Rev. Dr. David McCraith (Parish Associate)  
rovinrev@yahoo.com
The Rev. Marge Palmer (Pastor Emerita)  
margepalmer@comcast.net
Nancy Kromm (Choir Director)  
nancy_kromm@stonechurch.org
Pam Hood (Interim Organist)  
pam_hood@stonechurch.org
Mary Jo Blazek (Church School Administrator)  
maryjo_blazek@stonechurch.org
Jennifer Scott-Brand (Office Manager)  
office_manager@stonechurch.org
Ruthanne Martinez (Treasurer)  
treasurer@stonechurch.org
Joanne Vliet (StoneNews Editor)  
stone_news@stonechurch.org
Presbyterian Women - Jean Raby  
ringnsing@prodigy.net
Men’s Mission & Ministry (MMM)  
Leland Wong  
hikingscco@gmail.com

Stephen Ministry Coordinators  
Carol Lathrop  
carlath@sbcglobal.net
Pauline Moore  
paulinemoorepower@gmail.com

Prayer Chain Coordinators  
Jan Keifer  
keiferjj@sbcglobal.net
Steven Graham  
stevenrichardgraham@gmail.com

StoneCares -  
Stonecares@stonechurch.org

The Board of Deacons
Moderator ~ Janice Goertz

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2021</th>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
<th>Class of 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ginny Barret</td>
<td>Sue Evans</td>
<td>Tim Collins</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janice Goertz</td>
<td>Steven Graham</td>
<td>Angie Davidson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Krause</td>
<td>Jim Hagan</td>
<td>Nanci Eksterowicz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne Martin</td>
<td>Jan Keifer</td>
<td>Julia Kiplinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aby Ryan</td>
<td>Jodi Lax</td>
<td>Mike Kunz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kate Wheatley</td>
<td>Kelsey Lax</td>
<td>Sabine Nelson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott Nelson</td>
<td>Ronni Pahl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nancy Paul</td>
<td>Nancy Shearer</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Elders of the Session
Clerk of Session ~ Mel Goertz

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class of 2021</th>
<th>Class of 2022</th>
<th>Class of 2023</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fran Cole</td>
<td>Amity Bateman</td>
<td>Bob Cole</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bob Fraser</td>
<td>Tammy Coleman</td>
<td>Derk Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brian Gustafson</td>
<td>Todd Davidson</td>
<td>Emily Meacham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jody Meacham</td>
<td>Julie Ludwig</td>
<td>Nina Mundi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Lord</td>
<td>Alice McNelis</td>
<td>Fred Oliver</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lizzanne Oliver</td>
<td>Charlotte McNelis</td>
<td>Kathy Stark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mike Raby-Brown</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>