

September 15, 2024
10:30 AM Service of Worship
17th Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering Around the Word

WELCOME

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Jim Clark

Leader: The way of Christ turns the world upside down.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It moves us beyond retribution and cycles of violence.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It leads us to love our enemies and scandalous forgiveness.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: It calls us beyond reciprocity into radical giving.

People: God's ways are not our ways.

Leader: So let us commit our way to the Lord together

**People: Until our righteousness shines like the morning dawn
and our justice like the noonday sun.**

Leader: Let us worship the Lord our God!

*HYMN #435

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

**We confess that we have not followed your ways
or trusted your promises.**

We love only those who love us;

we show kindness only to those who are kind to us;

we give only when we expect to receive.

Forgive us, Lord.

Fill our hearts with your selfless love.

Change our lives by your matchless grace.

These things we pray through Christ our Savior.

*SILENT CONFESSION

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE #475 (Verse 3) *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
**O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

*THE PASSING OF GOD'S LOVE AND PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you all ... **And also with you.**

Proclaiming the Word

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Bob Hurte

FIRST LESSON

Luke 6:27-31

p. 1021

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Prayer for Peace

Choir

SECOND LESSON

Luke 6:32-38

p. 1021

This is the Word of the Lord ... **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SERMON

"Kindness"

Pastor Stephen Choi

Responding to the Word

*DECLARATION OF FAITH

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.**

*HYMN #753

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*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

Bearing and Following the Word

*HYMN #754

Help Us Accept Each Other

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*RESPONSE

Jesus, Be with Us

*Jesus, be with us. Help us each day
to follow the gospel and live as we pray.
Send us your Spirit and show us your way.
Jesus, be with us today.*

*POSTLUDE

*Please stand if able

Stewartsville Presbyterian Church

The Ministers: All the Members

The Rev. Stephen Park Choi, Pastor

Brian Ballentine, Music Director

Denise DeMasi, Choir Director

Laura Choi, Christian Education Director

STEWARTSVILLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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e-mail: office@stewartsvillepc.org

PRAYER LIST OF THE CONGREGATION

(as of Sept. 11, 2024)

Jim B.	Yahvarri E.	Brian &
Debbie S.	Debbie & Mary S.	Marlaina M.
Lynn J.	Rachel S.	Ron & Paula N.
Markle Family	Ellery E. & Family	Peter S.
Sharon P.	Joseph C.'s Family	Lisa C.-H.
Rene L.	Dennis M.	Jackie F.
Bessie S.	John E.	Antoinette G.
Nicholas C.	Kennedy Family	Yvonne H.
Williams Family	Lorlyn H.	Colton M.
Jen S.	Taylor S.	Frank I.
Bev G.	Gary B.	Jackie L.
Mina C.	Charlie B.	Jane R.
June G.	Joe S.	Greg R.
Fucili/Banghart	Chas F.	Steven M.
Family	Jackson Family &	Jeffrey G.
People of Haiti	Felicity	Betty N.
Tracey J.	Beverly K.	Kevin O.
Lia S.	David & Carole J.	Renée's Parents

Victims of Violence and Natural Disasters
Justice and Peace
Students and Teachers

This Week's Mission Partner: Foundation for Peace

To submit a prayer request, please contact the church office at
 908-859-1399 or office@stewartsvillepc.org

OUR CONGREGATION IN MINISTRY

Assisting in Worship Today	Jim Clark
Greeter Today	Morgan Banghart
Broadcast Team	Alan Deak and Bill Fleming

Week Ahead at Stewartville Presbyterian Church

Today, 9/15: Blood Drive, 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Monday, 9/16: Finance Team, 1:00 p.m., Library

Wednesday, 9/18: Anniversary Comm. Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Library

AA, 7:00 p.m., Roan Hall

Friday, 9/20: Friday Devotional Group, 8:00 a.m., Library

Fiber Arts, 9:30 a.m., Roan Hall

Sunday, 9/22: Adult Sunday School, 9:20 a.m., Library

Worship Service and Children's Sunday School, 10:30 a.m.

Time for Fellowship after Worship Service

Deacons Chapel Service, 2:00 p.m., Lopatcong Care Center

AA, 6:00 p.m., Roan Hall

This Week's Birthdays and Anniversaries

Today, 9/15: Dave Bove

Noelle Steller

Chris & Laurie Winans – Anniversary

Tuesday, 9/17: Lindsey Culcasi

Thursday, 9/19: Jim & Cindy Bowman – Anniversary

Saturday, 9/21: Jean Bradbury

Announcements

Welcome. Thank you for choosing to worship with us today. We invite you to sign the pew pad as they are being passed. Restrooms are located downstairs in Roan Hall. We hope that the service is a blessing to you, and we look forward to seeing you again soon.

SPC 175th Anniversary. 2025 will mark the 175th anniversary of the Stewartville Presbyterian Church! We have formed an Anniversary Committee to plan activities, celebrations, etc.

We will meet this Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the library.

Please speak with Pastor Stephen if you are interested in serving on this committee.

Announcements (continued)

Adult Sunday School. Please join the Adult Sunday School class on Sunday mornings at 9:20 a.m. in the library or on Zoom.

We are continuing our study of the Gospel of Mark.

Friday Morning Devotional Group. The Friday Morning Devotional Group has resumed meeting each Friday at 8:00 a.m. The group meets in person in the library and via Zoom.

We are reading "Spiritual Classics" by Richard Foster and Emilie Griffin.

If you are interested in participating, please let Pastor Stephen know.

Women's Circle. The Women's Circle will meet on Thursday, Sept. 26, at 6:00 p.m. at the Brass Rail, 840 Belvidere Rd., Phillipsburg.

All women are invited to join us for a meal, good conversations, and the opportunity to encourage one another.

For more information or to make a reservation, please call Linda Williams at 908-454-8104.

Grief Support Group. If you have lost a spouse or loved one, and would like to connect with others from the church who are walking through grief, please let Pastor Stephen know.

We are looking to start a support group, where we can come together to listen, talk only if you want to, to find strength from God, and know you are not alone.

Our initial meeting will be sometime the first week of October. Please let Pastor Stephen know if you would like to participate.

Fall Women's Retreat. The Fall Women's Retreat will be held from Friday, Oct. 25 to Sunday, Oct. 27 at Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center. You may also attend the Saturday session only.

The theme for this retreat is "Delightful, Disruptive, and Delicious: Eating with Jesus." We will gather for a weekend of studying the Word, preparing Mediterranean meals, and sharing table fellowship. Registration is open and is predicted to fill up quickly.

Scholarships are available through our church.

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If you are interested in attending, please speak with Linda Williams. For more information on scholarships, please speak with Pastor Stephen.

Voices Needed! All interested new choir members, ages 13 and above, are encouraged to join us every Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m. for practice in the choir room. We will sing during the 10:30 a.m. worship service each week.

No musical experience is necessary, so come join the fun with our growing choir! We look forward to lifting our voices to the Lord!

UrbanPromise Fundraiser. On Saturday, Sept. 28, Pastor Stephen will join other paddlers in voyager canoes to circumnavigate Petty's Island on the Delaware River to raise money for UrbanPromise.

Pastor Stephen's goal is to raise \$1,000.

If you would like to support Pastor Stephen, you can make a donation by writing a check to Stewartsville Presbyterian Church and note "UrbanPromise" on the memo line.

For online giving, please go to the church website (www.stewartsvillepc.org), Give Now, Special, and specify "UrbanPromise" in Notes.

For more than 30 years, Camden's youth have been growing and thriving in UrbanPromise's supportive and educational community, one that challenges them to build the skills they need to achieve the goals they envision for themselves.

Catholic Charities Food Pantry. We continue to donate food and toiletries to the Catholic Charities Food Pantry.

At this time, the food pantry is in particular need of toilet paper, soup, pasta and pasta sauce, and rice, as well as grocery bags.

Devotionals. The following daily devotionals are available on the table in the sanctuary, or by calling the church office:

- "Our Daily Bread," Sept./Oct./Nov. issue.
- "Today," Sept./Oct. issue.
- "Our Daily Bread," large-print edition, July/Aug./Sept. issue.

Pray for This Week's Mission Partner: Foundation for Peace.

The mission of Foundation for Peace is building relationships, bringing hope and transforming communities by working hand in hand with local communities and churches in the Dominican Republic, Kenya and Haiti. Among the things offered by Foundation for Peace are healthcare and education. To learn more about Foundation for Peace, visit their website at foundationforpeace.org