

Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church

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December 5, 2021 Worship

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Just a few notes to keep in mind:

- ♦ It is mandatory that ALL wear a mask, per recent decision from Session. Please see a Session member with questions.
- ♦ For the immediate future we will not have congregational singing indoors.

Prelude

Advent Candle: Advent 2 – Hope

Advent Candle lighting and reading: (Ullom Family)

Welcome: (Rev. Rob Smith)

Call to Worship (Monique Lander)

Opening Song: Medley of the Christmas Scene:

In the Bleak Midwinter #144, vs 1,
Lo How a Rose E'er Blooming #129, vs 1,
and O Little Town of Bethlehem #121, vs 1

Prayer of Reconciliation: (Kelly Polson)

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Grace (Rev. Rob Smith)

Prayer of Illumination (Monique Lander)

Scripture: Ezekiel 37: 1-14 (Kelly Polson)

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all round them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, 'Mortal, can these bones live?' I answered, 'O Lord GOD, you

know.’ Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.’

So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, ‘Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.’ I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, ‘Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, “Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.” Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act, says the LORD.’

Children’s Sermon: Puppets (Meg and Ryan Currens, Pastor Rob)

Sermon: (Rev. Rob Smith)

Response: Of the Father’s Love Begotten, #108, vs 2

Call To Offering (Monique Lander)

Offertory Come Thou Expected Jesus

Prayers of the People:

All: 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.

Closing Song: Lift Up Ye Heads, Ye Mighty Gates #93

Charge and Benediction: (Rev. Rob Smith)

Announcements

Session requires masks be worn for all indoor church activities (worship, M in M, Sunday School, etc) **regardless of vaccination status.** Thank you for your cooperation, and for your care for our community, as we continue to deal with this pandemic.

- For the immediate future we will not have congregational singing indoors.

Mark your Calendar – The Kids Christmas Pageant (under the direction of Trista Hanson) **and Adult Music program** (under the direction of Martha Davis) will be Sunday, December 19, during the morning worship service. Many parts have been assigned but if your child isn't signed up, please talk with Trista, Karen, or Chris today!

Children's Sunday School classes meet 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. There will be a PreK - 2nd grade class and a 3rd-5th grade class. We will bring the children back to the sanctuary for the Children's sermon at 10:15 and then the children can sit with their parents during the rest of the service.

Children's Sunday school Teacher schedule

- Dec 5th PreK to 2nd - Sara Gracek
- Dec 5th 3rd-5th - Karen Johnson
- Dec 12th -
- Dec. 19th we will be getting ready for Children's Christmas program
- Dec 26th - no SS Christmas break
- Jan 2 - no SS New Year's break

The Christian Ed committee will be putting together **Christmas treat bags for the children.** If you would like to donate any pre-wrapped candy/treats for the bags, please bring them to church by December 12th. They may be placed in the basket below the table in the front hall. We will be giving them to the children on December 19th.

From Community Service: Many thanks to all who contributed to Armful of Love! With your generous support, we were able to meet our pledge to the Armful of Love team at 360 Communities with gift cards totaling \$1,000.

Giving Tree part 2, support for Spirit of Life families:

If you need support this Christmas, please contact Pastor Rob. We'll be giving gift cards (not buying gifts) and we're asking for gift cards of \$25 or \$50 from Target, Walmart, Cub and Aldi's. Checks should be made out to Spirit of Life, with "Giving Tree-Spirit of Life families" in the memo line. Our goal is \$1000 and we already have a jump start of \$250 in gift cards (\$50 cards from Target and Cub)!! We will be collecting cards on December 5th and 12th. Thank you for your generosity!

Meet with Pastor Rob for **Coffee and Conversation Mondays, from 9:00 am to 11:00 am**. Come as you are. This is a gathering online but it is open for you to pop in and out any time during the two hour time frame so feel free to drop in and say hello. *Note, same time and same login, recurring meeting each week. Join Zoom Meeting at <https://zoom.us/j/286584190>

Spirit of Life is working to be sustainable through **recycling**. By introducing more recycling collocated at the location of most trash cans, we can significantly reduce the amount of waste being sent to the landfill while showcasing that reducing waste can be easy. Help us to celebrate sustainability while enjoying the event. Clean plastics, tin/metal and paper should go into the recycling bins and everything else should go into the trash. Thank you! Please see Pastor Rob, any Elder or member of the staff with questions.

Volunteers Needed:

...We need one person each Sunday to serve as a Greeter and one person each Sunday to serve as an Usher for Sunday worship. We need two volunteers for each week. Please let Becky Brandt know what dates you are available to help and she will build a calendar. Call/text Becky at (218)779-0427 or email her at thebrandtfam@gmail.com. Thank you!

2021 Per Capita is \$36.50

Questions about "Per Capita"? Here's an article from the Presbyterian Today magazine that provides information! Click on: [Per Capita article.pdf](#).