

# **Spirit of Life Presbyterian Church**

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## **January 23, 2022 Worship**

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With the spike in positive Covid numbers this last week in our community that includes many in our congregation, **we have made the decision to move fully online through the end of January.** Unlike 2020 when this was new, we will return back to hybrid worship that includes in-person soon. We will monitor transmission rates over the next two weeks as we discern February 6th as our return date, or if it is wise to extend another couple of weeks.

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**Prelude:** (Steve Braden)

**Welcome/Announcements:** (Rev. Rob Smith)

**Call to Worship:** (Merry Close)

Together, Let us gather and turn, turn towards the light.

Let us gather and turn, turn towards each other.

Let us gather and turn, turn towards God.

And be recentered, renewed, and know of God's reconciling love.

Let us worship God.

**Opening Song:** Here I Am To Worship (Kelly Polson)

**Prayer of Reconciliation:** (Jeff Mortimer)

**Assurance of Grace** (Rev. Rob Smith)

**Prayer of Illumination** (Merry Close)

**Scripture:** John 3: 1-21 (Jeff Mortimer)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus[ by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses,

and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you[g] do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

**Children’s sermon:** (Rev. Rob Smith)

**Sermon:** (Rev. Rob Smith)

**Call To Offering** (Merry Close)

**Offertory** He Is Ever Over Me (Pastor Rob and Lisa) CCLI Song # 1423537 by Bob Stromberg

**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:** Lord Reign in Me (Pastor Rob and Lisa) CCLI #2490706

**Charge and Benediction:** (Rev. Rob Smith)

**Postlude:** We Are Called (Kelly Polson)

## Announcements

The **Annual Congregational meeting** will be held after worship on January 30. Join the meeting in person or on Zoom. Zoom Link for Annual Meeting (\*Note, this is different than the worship link): <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88393745998>

### News from the Christian Education Committee:

Due to increase in Covid numbers, the new adult class will resume in February.

Due to increase in Covid numbers, there will not be Children's Sunday School this Sunday, January 16. Tentatively we'll start Sunday school again February 13th.

Due to increase in Covid numbers M&M will resume meeting on Wednesday, February 16th.

The **Community Service team** once again invites you to join us in collecting cans of soup for "Souper Bowl" Sunday. The big event is Sunday February 13. We will be collecting soup on January 30, February 6 and Feb 13 to be donated to our local food shelf. You are invited to participate in a bracket tournament – one entry per can of soup. There will be prizes! Stay tuned for more details!

### GriefShare Program Restarting Thursday, March 3, 6:30 pm, at SoLPC

This program features biblical, Christ-centered teaching that focuses on grief topics associated with the death of a loved one. The DVD seminar features nationally respected grief experts and real-life stories of people, followed by a small group discussion about what was viewed. Past participants have related how helpful the information and follow-up discussions were to them. Many grieving people find they are only beginning the work of healing when friends or family have returned to their daily life routines.

Too often people, including Christians, tend to bury their grief instead of allowing it to do the God-given work for which it is intended. Don't allow fear of what others may think to keep you from what could help you. Confidentiality is very much a part of this program. Please contact Bob Shepard or Jacqui Hicks for more information or to sign up.

From Community Service: During the winter months, the donations to the **Little Free Food Pantry** (located at the entrance of the driveway) need to be modified to tolerate the extreme cold temperatures we can see here. Please review the attached list of items for what to consider donating; ideal items are dried and in bags, like dried beans, rice, oatmeal, cereal, etc. And, remember the motto of the Little Free Food Pantry movement: *Take what you need, leave what you can.* Click [Winter Advisory List.pdf](#) for list.

Winter Chrysalis, 2022, registration is open! Dates: Feb. 18 – 20, 2022  
Theme: We are more alike my friends, than we are unlike. ~ Maya Angelou

The times, they are a' changin'. So, for us to meet in person in close quarters, Clearwater and the Chrysalis Steering Committee will be requiring that every person is fully vaccinated. Fully vaccinated means either: \*you have recently received a booster shot or you have received your first 2 vaccination shots within the past few months and you are not eligible for the booster yet. The following actions and documentation are required from every camper: Proof of covid vaccinations – bring to camp either your vaccination card or a picture of your card on your phone. AND Proof of a negative rapid in home Covid test taken Friday morning, Feb. 18, before camp. Take a picture of your results to also bring with you to camp. So, we are kindly suggesting you look for your rapid test now and tuck it aside for camp, so you are prepared. Another change for this year is the registration process. Clearwater is preparing a new registration system, but it will not be ready for our Chrysalis registration. Your registration is due by Feb. 11th. So, here is what you will need to do: Go to [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tAJO0HITF1dUvb71PhkaebkzW8\\_IR3lajefAcVQgeC0/edit](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1tAJO0HITF1dUvb71PhkaebkzW8_IR3lajefAcVQgeC0/edit). If you are unable to register online, call Barb and she will help you register. 612-669-9700

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](mailto: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](#).