CRESCENT AVENUE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

BUILDING ON A LEGACY OF FAITH & SERVICE

1844 175 YEARS 2019

October 18, 2020

They cried to the lord, and he answered.

Psalm 99:6

Welcome home! It is good to have you here with us again, gathering as the body of Christ, worshiping His holy name and praising God for all His amazing blessings.

We are excited to return to worship, though we may have feelings of anxiousness. There are guidelines that we would like to ensure remain in place as we return to worship to guarantee everyone's well being and safety. Below you will see some of the protocols that we will be enforcing for the duration of COVID-19.

- We are blessed to have such a large space to worship in, we ask that you maintain a social distance of at least 6 feet from one another. Families may worship together.
- Please wear a face covering at all times while on Campus.
- Around the sanctuary you will see resources that may be useful to you, such as disinfecting wipes, gloves, and hand sanitizing stations. All of these are for you to use!
- We ask that you enter one way, and exit another. Please follow the traffic flow so we can ensure everyone maintains social distancing while moving about the sanctuary.
- Restrooms are available, though we are trying to limit the usage of those facilities in efforts to stop the spread of COVID-19.

For more information regarding the reopening of our campus please take a copy of the full congregational packet, which can be found in the narthex.

Prelude

Violin Sonata in F *G. F. Handel*

Jenise Grice, *Violinist*

Cameron J. S. Kuzepski, *Accompanist*

Ringing of the Bell 10:30 AM

Welcome

Please stand

Call to Worship *Laura Villanueva*

Exalt the Almighty and worship at God's holy mountain,

For the Lord our God is holy.

Look! The Lord draws near; come into the presence of the Holy One.

Let us behold the Glory of God

Please remain standing as we sing the Opening Hymn

Give Thanks, O Christian People

Please be seated

Call to Confession *Rev. Lynn Santulli*

Prayer of Confession

> **Living Lord, in you we live and move and have our being. You call us to give all that we are and all that we have in service to Christ. But we hold tightly to our treasure, afraid we will not have enough for ourselves, and hold back our talents, afraid these gifts will not be enough. God, unclench our fists and help us to give fully and free so that, in all things, we might serve and glorify you.**
> **Amen.**

Silent Prayers of Confession

Declaration of Pardon

Please stand

Passing of Peace

Please remain standing

Gloria Patri

> **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.**
> **Amen.**

Please be seated

Prayer for Illumination *Laura Villanueva*

Holy God, we are blessed by Your Word and the power of Your Holy Spirit to draw us closer to You. Open our hearts and minds and let us grow in faith.

Amen.

The Old Testament Reading *Isaiah 45:1 - 7* *Laura Villanueva*

Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus, whose right hand I have grasped to subdue nations before him and strip kings of their robes to open doors before him—and the gates shall not be closed: I will go before you and level the mountains, I will break in pieces the doors of bronze and cut through the bars of iron, I will give you the treasures of darkness and riches hidden in secret places, so that you may know that it is I, the LORD, the God of Israel, who call you by your name. For the sake of my servant Jacob, and Israel my chosen, I call you by your name, I surname you, though you do not know me. I am the LORD, and there is no other; besides me there is no god. I arm you, though you do not know me, so that they may know, from the rising of the sun and from the west, that there is no one besides me; I am the LORD, and there is no other. I form light and create darkness, I make weal and create woe; I the LORD do all these things.

This is the word of the LORD

Thanks be to God

Psalm *Psalm 96:1 - 9* *Laura Villanueva*

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth.

Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples.

For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be revered above all gods.

For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens.

Honor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts.

Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before him, all the earth.

Children's Message *Pat Baker*

If you had a choice between having a bag filled with hundred dollar bills dollars and a bag that was barely half filled with pennies, I think I know which bag you'd choose. Are you a potato chip or popcorn lover? Do you want a bag with three chips or three kernels of popped corn, or bags full of the goodies you love to munch on? That answer is obvious, too.

Gospel Reading *Matthew 22:15 - 22* *Rev. Lynn Santulli*

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? "Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

This is the word of the LORD

Thanks be to God

Sermon *Rev. Lynn Santulli*

Please stand as we sing the Sermon Hymn

Be Still, My Soul

Please remain standing as we profess our faith

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 at 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.

Please be seated

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

During this pandemic we are very grateful for your offering and ask you to hold your offering and place it in the offering plate as you exit the sanctuary after worship. May you be blessed as you seek to be a blessing to others.

Anthem I Sing The Mighty Power Of God

Please stand for the Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below; Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts; Praise Father, Son, and holy Ghost.

Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Please be seated

Prayers of the People

Health Issues: Brian, Anthony, The Beaucasan Family, Leon Edwards, Cynthia, Elaine Duesbury, Frank, Drew Moore, Candyce Norris, Terry, Janie Whiteford, Henry Ward, Jr., Jay and daughter, Bob Newell, Kassi and Family, Juliet Fydrich, Michael R., the Carlson family, Karen West, Lindsey Loftons, Brenda Hopper, Thomas West Jr., Marlotte Troy Williams, Thylene Torres' mother, the DeGeneste family , Barbara & Craig Wensberg, , Tom Holleran.

Homebound (including due to COVID): Sonnia Cook, Gloria Laube, Winnie Neal, Joan Williams, Jack Shuster, Suzanne Lawrence.

World Issues: For justice for all peoples; for healing for our nation; for courage and wisdom for our leaders.

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.

Please stand as we sing the Closing Hymn

Sing a New Song

Benediction *Rev. Lynn Santulli*

Postlude Fantasy on Holy, Holy, Holy *Unknown*

Worship Leaders

Rev. Lynn Santulli	*Pastor*
Cameron J. S. Kuzepski	*Director of Music*
Pat Baker	*Children's Message*
Laura Villanueva	*Lector*
Emily Upton, BJ Snyder	*Counters*
Emily Upton, Noelle Perrine	*Greeters*
Jenise Grice	*Soloist*

Reformation Sunday: October 25, 2020

Emily Upton	*Lector*
Leslie Fagan	*Counters*
Thylene Torres, Dominique Stevens	*Greeters*

The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of W. Vincent Upton by his children.

<u>Upcoming Sundays You Won't Want to Miss!</u>

Reformation Sunday – October 25

Martin Luther 'arrives' as we celebrate the Reformation (not sure what that is? Come and find out!)

All Saints Day – November 1

Remembering the faithful who have passed before us, we honor their memory and recall the blessing they have been on our lives.

Enough

Enough!
The Pharisees had heard more than enough.
Enough of Jesus' parables.
Parables they distinctly recognized as
directly implicating them in the stories of
the two sons
the wicked tenants
the wedding banquet.

Enough!
The Pharisees had heard more than enough.
Enough of Jesus' parables.
Parables that pointedly angered them
because they did not not like the answers
from Jesus concerning
His authority
Resurrection belief and
the Law.

Enough!
The Pharisees had heard more than enough.
Enough of Jesus' parables.
Parables that directly challenged
their power
their authority
their prestige.

Time to stop this Jesus.
This Jesus who threatened the order
of all they had ever known
as Pharisees
religious leaders and
self-proclaimed pious worshippers of God.

A new impossible question
must be posed...and asked by the Herodians.
A question which could not possibly be answered
to satisfy both the Pharisees and Herodians...
and would also stir up trouble
amongst the crowd that loved Jesus...or
amongst the Roman authorities...who did not.

A Roman tax coin...
intended to be paid to the Roman Empire
by order of the emperor...
yes, that was the perfect plan to trap Jesus!
They thought.
Querying His opinion...if it was lawful
to pay the emperor's tax...
or not..
upon showing Jesus the Roman denarius,
His answer to their question was...
a question!
"Whose head is this,
and whose title?"

Trapped!
Not Jesus. Them!
The Pharisees and the Herodians.
Their only answer could be...
“The emperor’s.”

And the response of Jesus was...
simple, direct, yet profound.
“Give therefore to the emperor
the things that are the emperor’s,”
(Ah, easy enough. They knew...
and we know...the cost of that.)
“and to God
the things that are God’s.”
(Ah, not easy.)

For do we really know the true cost...
of giving to God?
Can we ever expect to understand...
exactly what to give to God?
Will we ever truly know how much...
is ever enough to give to God?
Do we know? How much?
Is ever enough to give?
Is ever.
Enough?

Matt.22:15-22 js. haer
NRSV 10.14.2020

Zoom Meetings – Staying in Touch!

The Heart of Christian Faith

Wednesday evenings at 7 pm on Zoom we explore our theology guided by Alistair McGrath's series of the same title. No previous experience required, just let Pastor Lynn know you would like to be included. She will let you know what materials are required. Fellowship and laughter, well, those are just a couple of the side benefits.

A deeper understanding of your faith? Well, that could just be the best eternal benefit yet. mlsantulli67@gmail.com

In the News…from the Pews

Thursdays at noon we gather to discuss current events. Grab a drink from the comfort of your own home or office and join in the conversation (or just listen in). Contact Pastor Lynn at mlsantulli67@gmail.com and you will be forwarded the link.

FLOWER DONATIONS

Chancel flowers are a lovely and special Sunday morning addition to our beautiful sanctuary. Please consider choosing a week to donate flowers to commemorate a special event, to honor someone, in memory of loved ones or to the Glory of God. Flowers ordered through the church are $70 and include two seasonal arrangements and delivery. You may also purchase and bring your own arrangements. (Costco is a popular source!) You may take the flowers home with you or leave them for delivery to our homebound members or someone who needs cheer. We would all love to see flowers every week! Please use the flower chart on the hallway bulletin board; or use an order form (also found on the bulletin board); or contact BJ Snyder at dillyanwen@aol.com or 908-229-6808.

OR…..make a donation to the CAPC Flower Fund so we can beautify our Chancel with flowers for all CAPC special occasions! Your name will appear in the bulletin as a donor for our next upcoming event.

HONORING OUR SAINTS

Would you like to remember or honor a loved one for All Saint's Day, November 1st? We will be decorating the chancel with fall chrysanthemums on that day.

For those who wish to memorialize or honor loved ones by dedicating these flowers, please place a check with the order form below in the offering plate NO LATER THAN SUNDAY OCTOBER 25TH. The suggested contribution is $10 per plant. Any additional contributions will support CAPC'S Flower Ministry. Dedications will appear in the bulletin Sunday November 1st.

Following the service, you may take your plant(s) with you, or they will be distributed to those members and friends of the congregation who are homebound or ill.

Thank you. CAPC Flower Ministry

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