

John Knox Presbyterian Church

January 21, 2024



Please be seated and prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

"I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes"

Parker Ramsay

Words of Welcome

The Peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

* Call to Worship

*I lift my eyes up to the mountains,
from where does my help come?*

**My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

*We look not to the mountains or valleys,
or even to heaven or earth,*

For God is found among us.

Wherever two or three are gathered in Christ's name,

God is here among us.

*Come, let us worship the God of Creation,
the God of People, the God of Community.*

Let us follow Jesus, for Jesus is The Way.

Let us worship together in faith.

* Hymn

"We Are Standing on Holy Ground" (twice)

#2272

* Call to Confession

* Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

*** Words of Assurance**

*** Response**

“Amen, Amen”

#600

Time with the Children of God

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm of the Day

Psalm 121

NRSV

I lift up my eyes to the hills—

from where will my help come?

My help comes from the Lord,

who made heaven and earth.

He will not let your foot be moved;

he who keeps you will not slumber.

He who keeps Israel

will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper;

the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

The sun shall not strike you by day,

nor the moon by night.

The Lord will keep you from all evil;

he will keep your life.

The Lord will keep

your going out and your coming in

from this time on and for evermore.

Gospel Reading

Luke 11: 1-8

NRSV

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, ‘Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.’ He said to them, ‘When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

Give us each day our daily bread.

And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.’

And he said to them, ‘Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, “Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.” And he answers from within, “Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.” I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Answering Some Questions”

Rev. Dr. John Neal

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

*** Saying What We Believe** Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

*** Hymn** "Blessed Assurance" #839

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Church & Community Life

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Call for the Offering

Offertory "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Carol McClure
Anna and Adam Robinson, vocals
Micah Robinson, cello

*** Response** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #609

*** Prayer of Dedication**

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*** Sending Song** "To God be the Glory" #634

*** Charge and Blessing**

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude.

Postlude "What A Friend We Have in Jesus" Charles Cowers, arr. by Victor Labenske

Church and Community Life

PLEASE WELCOME Rev. Dr. John Neal to the pulpit today. Dr. John retired from JKPC in April of 2020. Previously, he served over 30 years on Vashon Island, Washington. He will preach today and next Sunday.

DEACONS MEETING will be held TODAY after fellowship in the library.

STAR WORDS were distributed January 7 during worship. If you weren't here and would like to have a star word for your contemplation and action in the year ahead, see Eileen – A star word is waiting for you!

PER CAPITA is \$45.60 per member, the same as last year. Per capita is a set amount of money — sometimes referred to as “apportionment” — per member that every PC(USA) congregation pays to the larger/national church. Because we all share in the benefit of the PC(USA)'s system of government, the expenses associated with performing the functions of that system are shared by everyone. Part of our per capita supports the work of our Presbytery Stated Clerk Paul Belz-Templeman and the Administrative Manager, Cherie Elliott. If you can pay your own per capita and perhaps a bit more to cover someone who can't, the money we have budgeted for per capita can be used for local mission and operating expenses. Please label your check or envelope “per capita” so we can credit the correct account. Thank you for your support.

CHRIST JAR OFFERING today supports Congregations Helping People, a non-profit that helps our neighbors with emergency needs and referrals to other assistance depending on their individual situations. We save our change (and paper money, too!) during the month and receive this offering on the third Sunday of each month.

BOOK STUDY via Zoom starting later in January – see Sheila Cunningham for information.

HEARING CHALLENGED? The sanctuary is equipped with a hearing loop for people who appreciate a bit of assistance hearing more clearly, whether or not hearing aids are used. For more information, see Eileen or CJ.

LOOKING AHEAD

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS: Jan. 4 – Bethany Cozort; Jan. 26 – Ashley Kramer;
Jan. 28 – Madison Curtis

TODAY After worship – January Birthday celebration
After fellowship – Deacons meet in library

Tues. Jan. 23 10:00 am Mission Committee – at church

Sun. Jan. 28 10:30 am Morning Worship with Rev. Dr. John Neal

Sun. Feb. 4 10:30 am Morning worship with Rev. Maggie Lewis
Holy Communion

Sun. Feb. 11 10:30 am Morning worship with Rev. Ben Dake

Wed. Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday

Sun. Feb. 18 First Sunday of Lent

10:30 am Morning worship with Rev. Maggie Lewis
After worship: Congregational Meeting

This service is being recorded and will be available on our website for a week.

This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people and their many tribes. We are grateful to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.

John Knox Presbyterian Church (USA)

PO Box 20968 (452 Cummings Lane N)

Keizer, OR 97307 (503) 393-0404

Office Hours: Mondays 9-12 and by appointment

Office email: office.johnknoxpreskeizer@gmail.com

Web: johnknoxpreskeizer.org

Liturgist: Dr. Elizabeth Neal
Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. John Neal

Music Director: Anna Robinson
Pianist: Bethany Cozort
