

Seven Works of Mercy
Mural, Neuendettelsau, Germany

John Knox Presbyterian Church

November 22, 2026

Reign of Christ

Please be seated and prepare your hearts and minds for worship

GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" Arr. Colleen Adent

Words of Welcome
The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

*** Call to Worship**
Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
Worship the Lord with gladness! Come into God's presence with singing!
Know this! The Lord is God! We are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.
So, enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and come into the sanctuary with praise.
Let us give thanks to God and bless God's holy name.
For the Lord is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever! God's faithfulness is for all generations!
Come, let us worship God!

*** Hymn** "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" #187

*** Call to Reconciliation**

*** Unison Prayer of Confession**
Almighty God, you are God of all creation, from beginning to end. All authority and power to direct the ways of the world are in your hands. Yet you saw fit to outfit humankind with the same freedom to choose and act that you have. We thank you for this power, but confess we often misuse it. We choose to do the things we know not to do. We take advantage, even as we sense our conscience pulling us away from what is wrong. We deny our own agency and claim "it is what it is" about the sufferings and injustices of the world when we should be working to make a change.

Forgive us, Merciful God, of our shallowness of heart and slowness of action. Fill us with the Spirit of Christ, the advocate for the least among us, that we be empowered to do justly, love kindness and walk humbly before you. Through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

*** Assurance of Grace**
Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. So believe the Good News:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

*** Sung Response** "Glory to God" #583
One time together, then twice in a round

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24 The Inclusive Bible
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Time with Our Young and Growing Ones

Second Reading Matthew 25: 31-46 The Inclusive Bible
This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon Rev. Maggie Lewis

*** Hymn** "The Church of Christ in Every Age" #320 Tune # 343

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Minute for Mission ODHS Gift Cards

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts
Invitation to the Offering
Offertory "Now Thank We All Our God" #643
Remain seated to sing verses 1 and 2 after Melissa's piano introduction, then stand to sing verse 3 as our offerings are presented for dedication.
*** Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People *Lord, in your mercy,* **hear our prayers.**
Please remember to use first names only to protect the privacy of those for whom we offer prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

*** Sending Song** "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" #542 verses 1 & 3

*** Charge and Benediction**

Please remain seated to enjoy the postlude

Postlude	"For the Beauty of the Earth" *with* "Give Thanks"	F.S. Pierpoint Henry Smith

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis — Pianist: Melissa Terrall
Liturgist: CJ High — Music Director: Anna Robinson

Bulletin Image: Seven Works of Mercy, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57787 [retrieved Nov. 21, 2026].

Church and Community Life

KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK

Setting new records is often a reason for celebration, but this new record brings mixed feelings. On Thursday, November 19, KCFB served 245 families – a new record surpassing the previous record of 230 families set on July 30, 2026. We are blessed to be able to help so many through the food bank, and at the same time, we are concerned for those who need assistance to have basic food needs met.

Our Fall Food Bank Promotion is **CANNED VEGGIES & CANNED BEANS**. If you leave your donations in the grocery cart, we'll get them to the food bank. If you find bargain prices, please share your discovery with others, perhaps during announcements. Although KCFB is no longer buying paper goods, they will gladly distribute what is donated.

Volunteers are needed for Monday's set-up (2-3 hours) and distribution from 4-7pm. Volunteers are also needed and welcome on Wednesdays when food is received and during Thursday morning distribution.

If you can't volunteer, another way to help food banks is to provide cash donations for bulk purchases of most-needed items. Designate "KCFB" or "Food Bank" and we will route the money to KCFB. The food bank also needs reusable grocery bags and medium-sized boxes. See Sheila, Teresa, the KCFB Facebook page, or email keizercfb@gmail.com for more information.

Thank you for your incredible support of John Knox's ministry. As of last Sunday, we have received 16 pledges for a total of $94,460 toward our 2027 budget. Your generosity is indeed witness to God's abundance and caring as we join our resources and lives in shared ministry. If you have any questions about your giving or our finances, please see Bronwyn.

PIES FOR CHP There are a few pies left for sale to benefit CHP. Please see Sheila to find out what's currently available.

GIFT CARDS FOR YOUTH IN FOSTER CARE Providing gift cards for youth in foster care is one way we can express our love and care for those in challenging situations. The gift cards allow youth the freedom of choice to buy items they want or need for themselves or for their families. Your generous donations last year provided $3,725 worth of gift cards. **We will receive donations for Bronwyn to purchase gift cards any time between now and December 6**. Bronwyn purchases cards from places that teens frequent such as Winco, Target, McDonald's, Subway, Taco Bell, Dutch Bros., and Ulta Beauty. Then Child Welfare workers distribute the cards based on individual circumstances.

WARMING SEASON is underway, and volunteers for Salem and Dallas Warming Centers are urgently needed. From November 1 through March 31, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action's ARCHES Project provides a warm, welcoming place for neighbors experiencing

homelessness when temperatures reach 32°F or below. Volunteers are essential to this work, and faith communities have long been valued partners in caring for our neighbors.
For more information and to apply: Visit https://mwvcaa.org/give/ and choose the Salem or Dallas Warming Center opportunity.
Questions? Contact **Jennifer Gross-Statler,** Volunteer Program Manager, at 503-585-6232 or email: jennifer.gross-statler@mwvcaa.org

REIGN OF CHRIST, celebrated on the last Sunday of the Christian year, right before Advent begins, celebrates Christ as Lord of all creation, calls believers to give loyalty to Christ over earthly rulers and worldly power, and highlights a reign rooted in self-giving love, justice, and compassion.

SCRIPTURE READINGS are from The Inclusive Bible, A Sheed & Ward Book published by Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, Inc., © 2007 by Priests for Equality.

This inclusive-language translation is also a re-imagining of the scriptures and our relationship to them. Not merely replacing male pronouns, the translators have rethought what kind of language has built barriers between the text and its readers. Seeking to be faithful to the original languages, they have sought new and non-sexist ways to express the same ancient truths. The Inclusive Bible is a fresh, dynamic translation into modern English, carefully crafted to let the power and poetry of the language shine forth—particularly when read aloud—giving it an immediacy and intimacy rarely found in traditional translations of the Bible. We have used this translation occasionally for many years at JKPC and we will be using it as the primary translation during Advent. If you have questions or want more information about this translation, please see Maggie or Eileen. The information at https://eewc.com/the-inclusive-bible/ provides helpful background.

In today's readings, "Sovereign YHWH" is used for "Lord God." YHWH is the four-letter Hebrew name of God in the Hebrew Bible. The translators use "The Promised One" when Jesus appears to be speaking about his self-identity as an apocalyptic figure. "Abba God" is used to express a close, familiar relationship.

October 2026 Financial Report

INCOME	Actual	Budget	YTD Act	YTD Budget	ANN Budget
Pledges	$5,420	$4,615	$60,495	$58,785	$84,280
Offerings	82	417	4,395	4,167	5,000
Miscellaneous	311	708	5,830	7,083	8,500
Christ Jar/CHP	147	100	1,698	1,000	1,200
Building Use	40	100	780	1,000	1,200
Per Capita	0		700	600	600
Food Bank Donations	150	150	1,800	1,500	1,800
Backpack B donations	100	175	2320	1,750	2,100
TOTAL INCOME	**$6,250**	**$6,265**	**$78,018**	**$75,885**	**$104,680**
TOTAL EXPENSES	**$11,928**	**$9,320**	**$93,804**	**$87,367**	**$114,375**
PROFIT/LOSS	**<$5,678>**	**<$3,055>**	**<$15,786>**	**<$11,482>**	**<$9,695>**
Including Investment Income, unrealized loss/gain and fees	**<$3,365>**	**<$3,055>**	**$8,029**	**<$11,482>**	**<$9,695>**

Treasurer's Report **Bronwyn Curtis**

The month of October saw a loss of $5,678. Expenditures included investment fees of $857. Our investment income was $1,703.69, with an unrealized gain of $1,466.96. We paid our third installment of property and liability insurance ($,804), and Sheila has ramped up bulk purchases of food for Backpack Buddies ($861.62) We received an additional $101 in pie money. The good news is that our regular expenses such as utilities are being held below budget to date. We know costs will increase in 2027 and the budget will be adjusted accordingly.

Session Notes **Eileen Sheelar, Clerk**

Session met on Nov. 19 via Zoom. We celebrated the treasurer's report of pledges received and approved the 2027 budget as proposed: $115,700 projected income and $122,971 projected expenses, with a deficit of $7,271. Funds have been set aside over the years to cover the cost of a pastor's medical benefits through Board of Pensions, which is just about the same as the projected deficit. We expressed joy and gratitude for the expressed hope and trust of our congregation.

We also approved the terms of Pastor Maggie's 2027 contract, which will be prepared and submitted to the Presbytery for approval.

As part of Maggie's continuing education, she will be attending the Association of Partners in Christian Education annual conference in Portland on January 27-30. She shared the five workshops she signed up for and how they will relate to our worship, care, and faith formation at JKPC. We deferred discussion about supporting the KCFB expansion financially to December for more information about the timing of the need for funds. We heard that Linda Arnold is stepping back from the Little Free Library, and Teresa Read is now the contact person. We discussed several ideas from the Mission meeting and will be following up on those with the committee. Our next meeting is December 17, at 7 pm, via Zoom. Guests are always welcome.



Looking Ahead

Nov. 26 **Thanksgiving**
Nov. 29 **10:30** Worship First Sunday of Advent
Nov. 30 **6:30** Salem Community Chorus
Wish Upon a Star at St. Mark Lutheran Church downtown
Dec. 5 **11:00** Piano recital in sanctuary by Melissa's students
Dec. 5 **12 noon** Salem Community Chorus at the Capitol Rotunda
Dec. 6 **10:30** Worship with Holy Communion
Second Sunday of Advent
ODHS Gift Card deadline
Dec. 7 **6:30** Salem Community Chorus **@** St. Mark Lutheran Church

Dec. 13 **10:30** Worship – Third Sunday of Advent
3:30 Salem Community Chorus
Christ's Church United – Monmouth
Dec. 19 **12-4pm** All Church Christmas Party – true potluck
with a small gift exchange, memories, and carols
Dec. 20 **10:30** Worship – Fourth Sunday of Advent
Christ Jar Offering, Birthday celebration
Dec. 24 **7:00** Christmas Eve service with Communion

JKPC November Celebrations

Birthdays	**Anniversary**
Nov 5: Maggie L.	**25:** Glen & Bronwyn C.
Nov. 22: Joan A.	

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This gathering of JKPC is occurring in the traditional land of the Kalapuya people. We offer our gratitude to the elders, past and present, who have stewarded it through the generations.

We are recording this service and it will be available on our website for two weeks.