

John Knox Presbyterian Church

October 11, 2026



For all the great thoughts I have read
For all the deep books I have studied
None has brought me nearer to Spirit
Than a walk beneath shimmering leaves
Golden red with the fire of autumn
When the air is crisp
And the sun a pale eye, watching.
I am a scholar of the senses
A theologian of the tangible.
Spirit touches me and I touch Spirit
Each time I lift a leaf from my path
A thin flake of fire golden red
Still warm from the breath that made it.
~Steven Charleston

GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

Words of Welcome

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

* Call to Worship

Long ago a vineyard was planted.

The ground was prepared, and all was made ready.

But the vines grew wild,

the ground was unable to support the wild grapes.

What happened in that place of promise?

People forgot the One who planted the vineyard.

They chose their own ways and failed.

Let us again turn to the Lord,

who will again plant, prune, and cause us to grow in faithfulness.

Let us open our hearts to God, trusting in God's ways and God's word!

* = Standing as able *Italics* = Leader **Bold** = People

* Hymn "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" #304 Tune #143

* Call to Confession

* Unison Prayer of Confession

Divine God, we try to grow happily, patiently, and faithfully in the soil you have prepared for us. You feed us, shelter us, and provide for our daily needs. Yet, we often fail to offer you the fruit of our harvest. We act as though we were abandoned children, trying to make it on our own. We feel forsaken, attacked by wild boars, cut down by our enemies, and neglected in the wilderness of our lives. Yet, through it all, you remain faithful. Renew our lives once more.

* Assurance of Grace

* Sung Response "Holy, Most Holy Lord" #597
Sanna, sannanina

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading Psalm 19 Roddy Hamilton

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Time with Our Young and Growing Ones

Second Reading Matthew 21: 33-46 NRSVUE

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Sermon Rev. Maggie Lewis

* Hymn "O Master, Let Me Walk With Thee" #738

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Minute for Mission

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

* Sung Response "Praise to God the Father" #605

* Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Please remember to use first names only to protect the privacy of those for whom we offer prayers.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

* Sending Song "Live Into Hope" #772

Please be seated for a brief congregational meeting.

Benediction

Please remain seated to enjoy the postlude

Postlude

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Guest Pianist: Adam Robinson

Liturgist: CJ High

Music Director: Anna Robinson

Bulletin cover poem: Steven Charleston, "Scholar of the Senses," in *Spirit Wheel: Meditations from an Indigenous Elder* (Minneapolis, MN: Broadleaf Books, 2023)

Psalm 19 reading by Roddy Hamilton, pastor of New Kilpatrick Parish Church in Bearsden, Glasgow, Scotland.

www.nkchurch.org.uk/

Church and Community Life

A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING has been called by session for today after worship for the purpose of electing officers, voting on proposed revisions to bylaws, and any other business. A few paper copies of the proposed revisions are available on the table in the narthex.

We gathered your gifts for the **World Communion Offering** last week; we will be sending them in to the PC(USA) office next week, so this is your last chance to be part of this special offering that supports racial justice, gender justice, global witness, and ecumenical and interfaith engagement. Thank you for your caring generosity.

Next Sunday, we will enjoy the Fall Fellowship meal with entertainment of some kind – you get to wonder and worry about what kind! Seriously, we'll have good food and a lot of fun. Session is providing the meal; if you would like, you are welcome to bring a dessert to share, but there will also be dessert provided.

SAVE the DATE! December 19 is the all-church Christmas Party, from noon – 4 pm. Why so late in December? So as much of our family as possible can join us!

Looking Ahead

Oct. 12 **7:00 pm** Administration Committee-Zoom

Oct. 15 **7:00 pm** Session meeting - Zoom

Oct. 18 **10:30** Worship

After worship: Autumn fellowship meal,
with to-be-announced entertainment 🍷

Oct. 23-24 Cascades Presbytery meeting - North Bend, OR

Oct. 25 **10:30** Worship – Reformation Sunday

JKPC October Birthdays

Oct. 1: Cariana H.

Oct. 24: Shirley B.

Oct. 14: Rosemary W.

(103!!)

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Pastor's phone: 510-435-7836

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.