

John Knox Presbyterian Church

February 2, 2025

Fourth Sunday
after the Epiphany

Holy Communion

*Welcome! Please be seated and prepare your hearts
and minds for worship.*

GATHERING INTO GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

"This is My Father's World"

arr. Victor Labenske

Words of Welcome

*May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.***

*** Call to Worship**

*God alone is our refuge and hope,
our shelter and protection.*

**From our very first breath to our last,
God's love and compassion never fails.**

*So come, lift your voices in praise to God.
Bear witness to God's acts of mercy and love.
Proclaim God's glory to all who will listen.*

Let's worship God together.

*** Hymn**

"This is My Father's World"

#370

*** Call to Confession and Silent Prayer**

*** Unison Prayer of Confession**

Lord, we confess that we doubt your capacity to work through us. We hold on to fears that we are unworthy to speak your words, so we stay silent even as your Spirit pulls at our tongues. We struggle to fathom the wholeness of your claim over us, so we ignore the light of your love as it emerges in the dark places of our lives. We seek refuge in temporary towers, and are numb to the grasp of cruelty. Forgive us. Help us to trust you, to lean upon you, to speak your word to a weary world and accept the completeness of your loving claim on our lives.

*** Words of Forgiveness**

* Response

“Where the Spirit of the Lord is”

#2119

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

Time with God’s Children

Prayer for Illumination

Today’s Psalm

Psalm 71: 1-6

NRSVUE

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;
let me never be put to shame.
In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;
incline your ear to me and save me.
Be to me a rock of refuge,
a strong fortress, to save me,
for you are my rock and my fortress.
Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel.
For you, O Lord, are my hope,
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.
Upon you I have leaned from my birth;
it was you who took me from my mother's womb.
My praise is continually of you.

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

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

NRSVUE

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

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

Sermon

“Love Is”

Rev. Maggie Lewis

* Hymn

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

#526

GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE

We welcome all to the table.

Invitation to the Table

Words of Institution and Communion Prayer

Communion of God's People

You will be served the bread and cup in your pew.

When you are served, please hold the elements until you are invited to partake with everyone in community. Cups may be left in the pews or returned to the social hall.

Special Music

"Come, Ye Disconsolate"

arr. Mark Hayes

Prayer of Thanksgiving

RESPONDING TO GOD'S CALL

Church and Community Life

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts

Call for the Offering

Offertory

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

arr. Victor Labenske

* Response

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"

v. 1 #708

* Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy... Hear our prayers.

The Lord's Prayer

SENDING GOD'S PEOPLE INTO THE WORLD

* Sending Song

"Just a Closer Walk With Thee"

#835

* Charge and Benediction

Please be seated to enjoy the postlude.

Postlude

"My Jesus, I Love Thee" (con't)

arr. Victor Labenske

Liturgist: Janet Anderson
Music Director: Anna Robinson

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis
Pianist: Bethany Cozort

Church and Community Life

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY is available on the table in the narthex. Please check your name off the list as you take yours. If you're going to see someone this week who isn't here today, consider delivering theirs and enjoying a short visit with them!

GOSPEL READING We are not projecting the words to the Gospel or Epistle reading for a few weeks as a bit of an experiment. How does it feel to listen without following the words on the projection? Do you listen better, or differently? Does it help you focus on the story instead of on the words? What do you prefer? **We want to hear from you!** Please share your thoughts with Maggie or Eileen. Thank you!

2025 PER CAPITA IS \$50 per member. \$33.94 of that stays at Cascades Presbytery to support our presbytery staff and committees; \$5.22 is sent to Synod of the Pacific, and \$10.84 goes to General Assembly (our national governmental body). Please mark your donation “per capita” so Bronwyn can credit it to the correct account. Your designated payments for per capita mean that more of our budget is applied to our operating and mission expenses.

KEIZER COMMUNITY FOOD BANK food of the month is **CANNED FRUIT AND VEGETABLES.** Please leave your donations in the grocery cart. The food bank can also use medium-sized boxes and sturdy bags for packing up food. Monetary donations are always welcome. Designate them for KCFB and Bronwyn will forward your donation. If you have time and can help pack boxes or unload supplies, your help will be appreciated at the food bank. See their Facebook page for contact information.

FELLOWSHIP TIME after worship is a wonderful time to talk with friends and make new ones. It’s even more pleasant with goodies in hand. Please sign up to provide some goodies or leave a free-will offering in the basket on the table so we can purchase refreshments when home-baked treats aren’t available. Thank you!

Looking Ahead

- Sat. Feb 8** 9 am – 3 pm All Officers’ Retreat at JKPC
- Sun. Feb. 9** 10:30 Worship
- Sun. Feb. 16** 10:30 Worship
- Tues Feb. 18** 2:00 Women’s Fellowship, Social Hall
- Wed. Feb. 19** 7:00 Session meets via Zoom
- Sun. Feb 23** 10:30 Worship *After worship:*
Annual Congregational Meeting

February Birthdays

5	Paul A.	26	Jacob C.
7	Doug A.	28	Betty C.
18	Paul W.		



OUT OF CHAOS, HOPE

PRESBYTERIAN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (PDA) urges you to support the PCUSA response to the devastating fires in California. PDA has already released emergency grants to meet urgent needs of the communities and to provide immediate care. Years of recovery lie ahead, and your commitment will help PDA extend the hands of Christ.

We will continue to receive and forward your designated offerings for US Wildfire Relief. Gifts may also be made online at pcusa.org/CAfires25, by phone at 800-728-7228, ext. 5885, or by check made payable to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with “PDA-CF25-BI” written on the memo line and mailed to Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700. **Remember – it’s true! – When we all do a little, it adds up to a LOT!**

PRESENTATION ON SANCTUARY RIGHTS & IMMIGRANT JUSTICE



DATE/TIME: Monday, February 10 2:00pm

FORMAT: Online via Zoom

Registration link: <https://cascadespresbytery.us12.list-manage.com/track/click?u=aaeda2egb65fb04a582f7f7fc&id=76ff995414&e=9d1ae358c1>

Members of the presbytery are invited to attend a **“Know Your Rights”** presentation offered by Bryan McGowan, Senior Council, Strategy and Training, for [Soar Immigration Legal Services](#). This gathering will provide valuable insights into the rights of immigrants and how congregations can engage in meaningful support and advocacy.

If you have trouble using this link to register, please contact Eileen and she can email you the direct link. The link is also available in the Cascades Connections email from the presbytery that was sent on Thursday, January 30.



First Congregational United Church of Christ will be hosting a **Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner** to benefit the Salem Youth Collective!

Join us for delicious food and carnival activities on Tuesday, **March 4, 2025** from 5:30 - 7:30 pm, at 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. Suggested donation is \$5.00 to benefit youth ministries.

RSVP <https://tinyurl.com/ecumenicalpancakes>. Questions?

Contact: Vik@salemwestpres.org.

Are you wondering about PC(USA)'s response to various presidential executive actions? Please check the PC(USA) website at <https://www.pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news> (watch for 2025 information) and watch the Presbytery's Cascades Connections weekly newsletter. If you are not subscribed, sign up on the presbytery website at <https://www.potc.org>.

Inclusion issues:

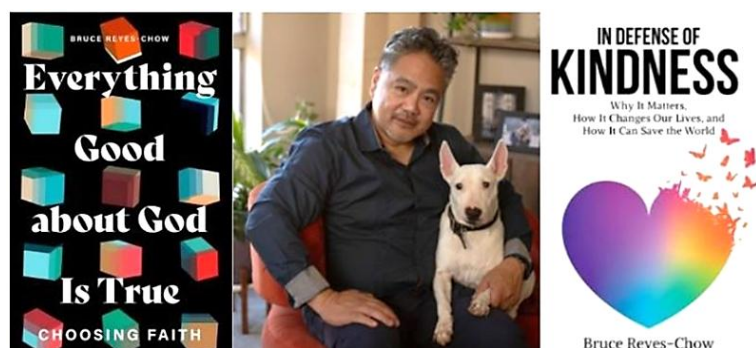
<https://www.pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/advocacy-committee-lgbtqia-equity-lambasts-trump-executive-order>

Immigration:

<https://www.pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/repeal-key-immigration-policy-holds-weighty-implications-churches-including-pcusa-congregations>

This story has several embedded links with further information. Presbytery of the Cascades is also working on accumulating information and advice for local churches and resources.

Another good general resource is <https://religionnews.com/>



BRUCE REYES CHOW will be in Salem on February 22-23. His visit is sponsored by Westminster Presbyterian and First Presbyterian Churches
Saturday, February 22

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| 10 am – noon | Welcome and First Session:
<i>What it Means to be a Welcoming Congregation</i> |
| Noon – 12:45 | Lunch – you may join Westminster for pizza or bring your own lunch |
| 12:45-2:30 | Second Session: <i>How Do We Talk Faithfully about Policy?</i> |

Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow is an active speaker, writer, and coach-sultant on topics of faith, leadership, activism, culture, race, and technology in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

Please register for this free event **REGISTRATION LINK** so Westminster can know how many to prepare for, and also just in case something needs to be rescheduled. If you're not looking at this information electronically, call the Westminster Pres office 503-364-3327 or look on their website salemwestpres.org to see if the registration link is posted there. As we receive more information, we will pass it along.

John Knox Presbyterian Church (USA)

PO Box 20968 (452 Cummings Lane N)

Keizer, OR 97307 (503) 393-0404

Office Hours: By appointment – call or email

Office email: office.johnknoxpreskeizer@gmail.com

Prayer chain: johnknoxpreskeizer@gmail.com

Web: johnknoxpreskeizer.org

Pastor: Rev. Maggie Lewis

Pastor's email: pastormaggie18@gmail.com

Pastor's telephone: 510-435-7836