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## A Message From Pastor Jay

**This Sunday we begin to turn our attention to the coming of Thanksgiving Day with a focus on Psalm 98. All creation joins together in praise of God. A timely message relating to climate change. As one person noted, the most deadly form of idolatry in modern society is the abuse of the environment. Joyful Noise provides music. JJ does his part to care for creation.**

**Our past worship services are now on the website! Click on the "past worship services" link on the opening page of the website and you will find all the services back to January of 2020! Thanks to Jim for letting us use his YouTube channel for easy access.**

**WE ARE WEARING MASKS IN THE SANCTUARY.**

**HOWEVER, WITH THE GOOD WEATHER NOW, WE ARE ABLE TO BE IN PERKINS HALL FOR FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE WITHOUT MASKS AS YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE. WE ARE ABLE TO HAVE THE WINDOWS OPEN AND FANS CIRCULATING THE AIR IN PERKINS HALL.**

**Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service**

**ZOOM BIBLE STUDY SATURDAY 10AM**

**ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP 2:00 PM**

**Let us know if you want to be added to these Zoom invitations**

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Musical Guests November 14 - Joyful Noise**

**NOMINATIONS for 2022**

If you are interested in participating in our church management or governance here are some ways you can do so.

1. Join one of our Ministries as a worker bee
2. Offer to put your name up for nomination as "chairperson" of a Ministry and thus be that Ministry's representative to the Cabinet.
3. Offer to put your name up for nomination as Co-Moderator of the Cabinet and work with Bill to lead our church's governance.

For any of these options, please notify Pastor Jay, Melissa or Bill, giving us your name, contact info, and what it is that you'd like to do. And of course, should you have questions about the duties of the Ministries, don't hesitate to ask us.

Ministries:

- Outreach/Missions
- Call to Care
- Education
- Physical Resources
- Welcoming

A new church directory is available on our website.

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

### **Interfaith Climate Action Team Forming in Prescott**

Our thanks to Julie Pindzola for representing us on this team. Kat Harley-Mays has also expressed interest.

### **“Planning for the Resilience of Our Towns, Environment, Climate and Tourism” (PROTECT)**

Climate impacts are adversely affecting communities worldwide and our planet as a whole. The Southwest has been hit particularly hard with drier, hotter temperatures, wildfires, water shortages, drought and flooding affecting human health and well-being. The PROTECT campaign is a grassroots, local movement to bring the Prescott quad-cities area together and join other municipalities in Yavapai County in this effort of mitigation and adaptation.

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### **WELCOMING --GREETERS AND FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS**

A list has been compiled and we already have sign ups for people contacted and/or have recently volunteered. I'm sure there are others that would like to serve in one or both capacities.

**Greeter** - Be there by 10am and say hi!!, glad you're here!!!

Give them a bulletin.....so fun and SIMPLE

**Fellowship** - Be there by 10:15am, put the goodies out you brought and other treats from cabinets in the kitchen. Tom will have coffee, tea and/or juice out. Look in the fridge also. STAY during our fellowship time and towards the end, to gather up and put away excess and general clean up (minimal). THANK YOU !!!

Place your name on the current list started in Perkins Hall or call me  
Patty Lantrip 480-227-2170

## NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS

November's Outreach Mission project is the Coalition for Compassion and Justice (CCJ). CCJ has transitioned from primarily being an emergency shelter for those who are homeless. It now helps clients find permanent affordable housing. Once housing upwards of 50 clients a night, CCJ now has helped dozens of those clients into mobile homes, cottage homes, apartments and lodge style facilities. Additionally, CCJ works with other agencies to help provide rental assistance. Our pastor served as president of the board from 2017-2019

This year we completed the renovation of our Madison Ave facility. The Madison Ave location now includes our "Second Chance" thrift store, emergency shelter space, and offices for our CCJ staff.

CCJ also offers programs for job opportunities. Through our "Workers for Work" program clients have access to vehicles which have been donated. Through our "Prescott Worker's Progress Agency" program, clients are trained and employed to perform landscaping jobs throughout community.

Donation checks can be made payable to the church with the memo, CCJ. As always, thank you for remembering that we have been blessed to be a blessing. ( Genesis12:2)

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## STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

### BOOK STUDY OPPORTUNITY

**As a new member of Prescott UCC, I am inviting others to join me for a book read and discussion of Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: A Celtic Guide to Listening to Our Souls and Saving the World. John Philip Newell shares the long-hidden tradition of Celtic Christianity, explaining how this earth – based spirituality can help us rediscover the natural rhythms of life and deepen our spiritual connection with God, with each other, and with the earth. Newell introduces some of Celtic Christianity's leading practitioners, both saints and pioneers of faith, whose timeless wisdom is more necessary than ever. We meet Fridays at 1:00 pm. Please send a note to the church office if interested in joining in this discussion.**  
**(Lisa Barnes)**

## SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY

Come in November to small group sessions with Marcus Borg. Via DVD, Borg uses plain language to explain basic faith topics for discussion by a small group meeting with him. We're thinking two opportunities each Sunday in November, one at 9:30 – 10:15, another at 11:45 – 12:30, here at church in the Maggie B meeting room downstairs

Nov. 7 God

Nov. 14 Jesus

Nov. 21 Salvation

Nov. 28 Christian Community

Questions?? Contact Pete Norum at 928-776-8867 or email him at [handle32pan@gmail.com](mailto:handle32pan@gmail.com)

(We'll wear masks and 8 – 10 participating at each session will space ourselves safely)

## ZOOM BIBLE STUDY WILL TRANSITION TO ZOOM FAITH FORUM

Starting Saturday, November 27, the new faith forum will allow a variety of faith issues to be explored. During Advent, "Incarnation: Fleshing Out the Bible's Christmas Stories" will be explored each Saturday at 10am.

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## SUNDAY BULLETIN

### TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 14, 2021

10:30 a.m.

*\*Those who are able may stand*

### GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

Prelude: "My Heart is Overflowing" by Miriam Therese Winter Joyful Noise

A Time for Children of All Ages ( *Jesus Loves Me, This I Know* )  
(children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's time)

Words of Welcome – Announcements - *\*Passing of the Peace*

Gather Song: "All the Ends of the Earth" by David Haas and Marty Haugen Joyful Noise

Opening Prayer: Sue Hodge-Parker

Majestic and Holy God, in reverent awe, we pause to be still, and to experience and know your presence with us now, as in this holy silence that surrounds us—

we open ourselves up to you in worship. Creating God, open our eyes to see you in the people around us and to the world in which we live, open our ears to hear your words of truth spoken to us; open our mouths to truly sing your praises and to celebrate your goodness to all humanity; open our hands that we may give generously to people in need; guide our feet that we may walk in your ways; open our minds to learn new concepts and new realities of our God; and open our hearts, our very souls to the yearning love that you have for each one of us right at this moment of awed worship and reverence. May we reach out to receive your gracious and generous mercy, and may we truly worship and serve you today.

\*Hymn: "Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped"

New Century Hymnal #22

Prayer of Confession

Sue Hodge-Parker

Grace-giving God, we come before you to worship, to praise and to thank you for your generous and gracious acceptance of our worship - imperfect as it is. We confess that we are so obsessed with our own small issues and concerns that we are unable to offer you all that we are in our worship of you. Jesus taught his followers to love and worship God "*...with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind... [and] your neighbor as yourself.*"; and we confess that we only offer to God, parts of our heart and soul; and we seldom offer very much of our mind to God! Forgive us for our lack of true commitment to the worship of God; and the way we limit ourselves in our acts of worship. Forgive us for the way we are often critical of other people's offerings of worship of God because their thoughts and prayers do not suit our preferences; regardless of the genuine way they make their offerings to God. God of the poor and dispossessed, forgive us for our lack of commitment to the nurturing of our neighbors in their varying circumstances.

Forgiving God, we join with the fellowship of forgiven people to "*...sing a new song to the Lord, for he has done wonderful deeds...*" We give thanks that our Liberating God has forgiven us and "*...remembered his promise to love and be faithful..*" to God's committed people. May we all celebrate and "*...break out in praise and sing for joy..!*" Amen.

### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 98

Sue Hodge-Parker

A Meditation on Psalm 98

Pastor Jay

Some communities exhibit considerable substance in their worship but little joy or enthusiasm in the praise of God. Others show great enthusiasm but little substance. This psalm [98] expresses powerful reasons for praising God – Israel's historical memory and God's coming to bring justice. The psalm weds the emotion and the intellect, both of which are vital to the praise of God...The psalms include both the memory of God's mighty acts on behalf of the community and the reminder that these mighty acts have implications for all creation.... Psalm 98 suggests that the journey inward and the journey outward are both essential to the full worship of the divine king..."<sup>3</sup> Jesus' teaching on this subject finds the right balance: "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, and all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. A second is equally important: 'Love your neighbor as

yourself.’

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✞ Text by Professor Walter Brueggemann & William H Bellinger Junior from “*Psalms*” Psalm 98, pages 422/3

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\*Hymn: “For the Beauty of the Earth”

New Century Hymnal #28

Sermon: “Subversive Joy, Praise, and Thanksgiving”

Pastor Jay

### **RESPONDING TO GOD’S GRACE**

Anthem: “For You Are My God” by John Foley

Joyful Noise

Prayers of the People / The Lord’s Prayer

Stewardship Minute

Diane Mares

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

\*Prayer of Dedication

Sue Hodge-Parker

\*Hymn: “When in Our Music God Is Glorified”

New Century Hymnal #561

\*Benediction

Pastor Jay

\*Postlude: "Anna Polka" by Johann Strauss

Brian Moore

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## **TREASURER REPORT**

**Income as of October 31 is \$115,808**

**Total expenses as of October 31 are \$121,464.**

**Total EXPENSE exceeds income by \$5,656.**

**Year-to-date income is at 95% of the income budget of \$122,450.**

**Year-to-date expenses are at 83% of the expense budget of \$146,905.**

**Julie McCurdy, Treasurer**

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## **STEWARDSHIP SEASON**

**Let us enter stewardship time prayerfully and with grateful hearts. Loving God, thank you for this opportunity to participate in the on-going mission of**

this church, your church. Help me to remember that everything I have comes from you. Open my heart and hands with generosity as I promise my support. Use my talents and financial commitments to continue your work in this church and in the world. Amen.

## ***RIPPLES OF GENEROSITY***

**STEWARDSHIP SEASON IS HERE!  
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 21  
ESTIMATES OF 2022 GIVING WILL BE RECEIVED  
THESE ESTIMATES ARE NEEDED TO PREPARE A  
CHURCH BUDGET FOR 2022**

**WHAT IS A STEWARD?  
WHO IS A STEWARD?  
HOW DO I BECOME A STEWARD?**

The answers to these questions are easy: A steward is a person who, with regard to a property both physical and functional, keeps it, cares for it, watches over it. As to who is a steward, well, we're hoping YOU are, or that YOU will want to become one.

How you become a steward involves the act of you giving to our church of your time, your skills and/or your finances.

There is another question to be answered. Why give to our church? First Congregational Church occupies a unique position in Prescott. We are the only historically rooted and progressive congregation in the city that follows the way of Jesus. We are both open and affirming to all. Our sanctuary evokes historic church connections and the presence of God. The God one finds here is the One Jesus modeled for us – a God of love and grace. Many have given testimony to finding healing here from other church experiences, where God was presented as judgmental and exclusionary. Other churches have retreated to locations out of town. We have remained here on Gurley Street, downtown, easily seen, accessible and welcoming to all.

### **IMMEDIATE NEED**

Another answer to why you would want to give to your church revolves around need, both yours and this Church's. You obviously have any number of personal reasons or needs that lead you into church participation here, where you find those needs met. Your church also has needs and right now those needs are financial. We are in unprecedented times. How do we create a church budget for 2022 with so many unknowns? How do you decide what to give to this church for 2022? When will we be able to fully open our church and return to worship? These questions have no immediate answers, so our church budget and your offer of financial giving are not set in stone. They are estimates. Your estimate of giving for

2022 will help us begin to understand what might be possible for the next year. So, with a thankful heart full of hope we are asking you to help us right now, to get through our 142<sup>nd</sup> year here in Prescott.

## LEGACY ANSWERS THE LONGTERM NEED

Our church is blessed to have THE FOUNDATION as a safety net. It was formed in 1992 to manage legacy gifts from our members and friends. Legacy giving is not about death. It's about giving and continuing life. It's an affirming experience that celebrates the people, values, and goals that you cherish most. You don't have to be rich to make a bequest or legacy gift. With a will or legacy gift you can give the way you want to live, by making a better or sustained future for your loved ones and a lasting impact on your faith community. If you are interested in leaving a legacy to our church, or have questions or concerns, you can send a note to the church office and a member of the Foundation will contact you.

**IT'S ALL ABOUT STEWARDSHIP - PLEASE BE OUR STEWARD!**

**May God bless you and our church**

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## SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: [www.fccprescott.org](http://www.fccprescott.org) and look for the tab on the front page You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.

Use your credit card and get some points!

Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank mail will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

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CONTACT US | VISITORS | RESOURCES | CALENDARS | SERVING | EDUCATION | STAFF

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United  
Church of  
Christ



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