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## A Message From Pastor Jay

### SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

**SCAMMERS AT IT AGAIN!**  
I WILL NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, NEVER, SEND YOU A TEXT OR  
EMAIL ASKING FOR HELP WITH A GIFT CARD OR ANYTHING  
ELSE. NEVER, NEVER, NEVER! (IS THAT ENOUGH NEVERS?) PLEASE  
IGNORE AS IT IS NOT MY PHONE NUMBER.  
IT HAPPENS ALL OVER THE COUNTRY TO PASTORS AND  
CHURCHES

**Sunday is Reformation Sunday - October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the Castle Church door in Wittenburg, Germany. Our gospel text is Luke 19:1-10, the story of Jesus seeing Zacchaeus up a tree and inviting himself to Zach's house! Jesus surprises us once again by hanging out with a rich tax collector - and it is no surprise that the people all grumble that he would spend time with this cheating scoundrel. Luther and Zach both find grace! Alter-Notes provides music; Henry is liturgist; and JJ & Ziggy get ready for Halloween.**

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.

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Vision 2023: Share your ideas for our Congregation**  
Conversations will take place two times:  
Church Pot-Luck October 30th after church  
Friday brown-bag lunch (BYO) November 18 at Noo

## **ZOOM FAITH FORUM - SATURDAYS 10AM**

Tomorrow's Zoom forum is African feminist theology  
November Zoom forums focus on the two creation accounts in Genesis and  
their two ways of understanding what it means to be human.

Let Pastor Jay know if you would like to be added to the Zoom invitation

## **CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT DECEMBER 11 DURING THE WORSHIP SERVICE - 10 MINUTES OR SO**

## **SHARING TOGETHER WITH THE DEWEY CHURCH AND PASTOR KENDRA**

In support of our black brothers and sisters at St. Luke Christian Center in Dewey, we  
are planning two opportunities to join together:

Wednesday, November 9 at 6:30pm – join them at their church for study and  
fellowship. The church address is 12191 East Turquoise Circle in Dewey.

Tuesday, January 17 at 5:30pm – welcome their members here as we watch “The  
Color of Fear.” This will take place during the activities offered during MLK, Jr. week.

## **TWO DONATION BOXES ARE ALWAYS PRESENT AT THE FRONT OF THE SANCTUARY FOR THE COMMUNITY CUPBOARD AND DISCOVERY GARDENS PRESCHOOL**

## **WOMANSONG WILL BE OUR MUSICAL GUESTS SUNDAY, NOV. 6**

## **PASS (PRESCOTT AREA SHELTER SERVICES) MEAL NOVEMBER 16 AT 5PM**

Every month on the third Wednesday, we provide a meal to the women’s shelter  
for their guests – around 30 women and children. Carolyn Christians has taken  
over leadership from Patty Gard – thanks to Patty for her faithful service! A sign-  
up sheet is in Perkins Hall.

## **Musical Guests Sunday - Alter-Notes**

The Office Is Open Most Mornings and By  
Appointment. Call Prior To Visiting for Confirmation: Pastor  
Jay 928-899-9066

## NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS

### NOVEMBER MISSION NEWS

**MONTHLY FOCUS:** Each month throughout the year, our mission outreach team identifies particular mission projects/programs to which we might choose to donate.

As the holiday season approaches, this month our focus turns to the **Coalition for Compassion and Justice (CCJ)** AND **Yavapai Food Bank**.

**CCJ** has transitioned from primarily being an emergency shelter for those who are homeless to now helping clients find permanent affordable housing. **CCJ** has helped dozens of clients into mobile homes, cottage homes, apartments and lodge style facilities. Additionally, they work with other agencies to help provide rental assistance and programs for job opportunities.

The **Yavapai Food Bank (YFB)** provides food boxes for approximately 400 families weekly. Serving the area since 1992, **Yavapai Food Bank** is the largest food bank in our county, distributing tons of food each year to thousands of families and individuals living in poverty.

If you would like to donate to either project, please make your check payable to the church, with the memo of **CCJ** or **YFB**. Mission donations which do not specify a particular project will be disbursed as determined by our Mission team members.

Recent mission disbursements have been made to: Ukraine Relief (\$2,020); St Luke Ebony Christian Church (\$1,700); Prescott College's Freedom Education Fund (\$350); and UCC's Neighbors in Need (\$505).

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

*Mission Outreach Committee members are Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820 or [beckybryant2255@gmail.com](mailto:beckybryant2255@gmail.com).*

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## CHURCH FOUNDATION

The Foundation was formed as a separate non-profit Corporation by the Church back in 1993 as a way to focus management of large donations and gifts for the benefit of the Church. Currently the Foundation manages financial assets and

owns the building leased by our new tenant, Red, White and Brew. The majority of the financial assets are invested with United Church Funds in Balanced Mutual Funds. The funds are a result of Endowments and Memorial Gifts to the Foundation from past members of our Church or their families. The restaurant building was also a gift to the Foundation. In many cases the gifts list how the donors wanted the monies to be used. Some examples are Christian education needs of the children, the youth, and young families of the Congregation and for capital needs of the Church. The Foundation By-Laws explain how the Foundation Board is to act in managing the funds for the benefit of the Church. When a need arises, typically the Church Cabinet will make a written request for funds and the Foundation Board will act on that request. The Board does not look to micro-manage Church finances, but it needs to determine which fund may be the most appropriate fund to provide the funding request. The Board also is responsible for taking a long-term view of the use and sustainability of the endowments for the future benefits of the Church. Substantial donations to the Foundation can be complex financial transactions involving donor taxes, restrictions on the use of the donations by the Foundation and may take several different legal forms. The United Church Funds has several very good brochures and videos on their web site that give good explanations of the process and choices that can be used to donate to the Foundation – [ucfunds.org](http://ucfunds.org)

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## SUNDAY BULLETIN

### TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 30, 2022

10:30 a.m.

*\*Those who are able may stand*

#### GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

*Gather us together this Reformation Sunday, O God, that we may celebrate the witness of our forefathers and foremothers and the courage that gave birth to the Reformation. Teach us how to honor the saints of God in ages past as well as in our present days. May the conviction of your grace written on their hearts be one that forms our own faith. Inspire us in the continuing reformation of the church and be present to us in your word. In Christ's name we pray. Amen*

Prelude: "Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"--arr. Thomas Bliss      Mark Achuff

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

Gather Song: "You are Holy"

Alter-Notes

A Time for Children Of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children's

time)

\*Hymn: "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

New Century Hymnal #439

Opening Prayer

Henry Dahlberg

L: You shape our hearts with the tools of compassion so we will seek justice for all.

**All: We thank you, God of gifts.**

L: In the hospitality of Zaccheus, we see your openness for all who are different;

**All: in the grumbling of his neighbors, we hear echoes of our current culture's hostility;**

L: In his transformation into a new person, we see your grace which is prepared for us.

**All: We thank you, Companion of the poor.**

L: you walk with us, nudging us to be that blessing we are called to be to others.

**All: We thank you, Surprising Spirit.**

L: How patient is God! We run around trying to do everything our way, and God just waits.

**All: We try to buy life and happiness, and God waits.**

L: We hurt others and walk away from those in need, and God waits. God waits, and upon hearing our heartfelt prayers and cries for help, God touches us with forgiveness and new life.

L: Wondrous God: Thirteen billion years ago your creative spark called creation into being. Two thousand years ago you lit a spark of new creation in Christ. Five hundred years ago, your grace reignited the hearts of men and women with names like Martin Luther, John Calvin, Katharina Zell, Ulrich Zwingli, and Argula von Grumbach. Just when we think all is settled, everything is finished, closed, your power and presence explodes on to the scene yet again, bringing newness, bringing life. Fill us with your power and presence, O God, so we may, like our grandparents in faith carry your truth, your beauty, and your justice to the world you so love—a world in such need. In Jesus' name. Amen.

### PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

Gospel Reading: Luke 19:1-10

Henry Dahlberg

\*Hymn: "Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"

New Century Hymnal #400

Sermon: "Jesus' Words When You Are Up a Tree"

Pastor Jay

### RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE

Anthem: "You'll Never Walk Alone" arr. Mark Hayes

Alter-Notes

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)

Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts

Offertory: "My Delight Is In the Lord"--Robert J. Powell      Mark Achuff

\*Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; ☐ Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; ☐ Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

\*Prayer of Dedication

Henry Dahlberg

**Bless every person that is present in the sanctuary today. Bless the offerings for the work of your church. Bless everyone who has offered time, talent, and treasure to your work. We ask everything in your mighty name. Amen.**

\*Hymn: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past

New Century Hymnal #25

\*Benediction

Pastor Jay

\*Postlude: "A Mighty Fortress!"--arr. James Pethel

Mark Achuff

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## TREASURER REPORT

### UPDATE FROM THE TREASURER

Financial Activity as of **September 30, 2022**

Contributions and other revenue: \$117,883

Expenses: \$114,309

Contributions exceed expenses by \$3,574

**Julie McCurdy, treasurer**

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## STEWARDSHIP

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 20**

**ESTIMATES OF 2023 GIVING WILL BE RECEIVED  
THESE ESTIMATES ARE NEEDED TO PREPARE A CHURCH BUDGET FOR  
2023**

**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 2023 with so many unknowns? How do you decide what to give to this church for 2023? 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 2023 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 143rd 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.

**T'S ALL ABOUT STEWARDSHIP - PLEASE BE OUR STEWARD!**

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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 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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United  
Church of  
Christ

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