

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Announcements		announcements@spriggsroad.org
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Spriggs Road Presbyterian Church is a particular church of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).

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And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Acts 2:42 (ESV)



LORD'S DAY WORSHIP

DECEMBER 11, 2022

10:45 A.M.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Meditation

Call to Worship and Invocation

†**Hymn of Worship**

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”
TPH 323; TH 201

Greeting

†**Song of Praise**

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus” *TPH 350; TH 251*

†**Confession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

Pastoral Prayer

†**Scripture Reading**

Ezekiel 37:15-28 [Seat Bibles, p. 725]

†**Singing Psalms**

Psalm 91
Tune: “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
TPH 300; TH 196

Tithes & Offerings

†**Gloria Patri**

TPH 572; TH 735

Sermon Text

Ephesians 4:7-16 [Seat Bibles, p. 977-78]

Expounding the Word of God

Pastor Michael Mang

“Gifts Christ Gives to Unify His Church” (Part 2)

†**Hymn of Response**

“Your Hand, O God, Has Guided” *TPH 416*

The Lord's Supper

†**Doxology**

†**Benediction**

Postlude

†Standing, if able

TPH — Trinity Psalter Hymnal TH—Trinity Hymnal

WELCOME

We really mean it when we say we are thrilled that you have come to worship with us today!

If you should have any questions or comments about the ministry of Spriggs Road Presbyterian Church, please feel free to reach out. Contact information is on the back page of this bulletin.

We have 9:30 Sunday School for all ages, and 10:45 worship, with nursery available for ages 3 and under. Children are always welcome in our worship services. We also have a “cry room” available with a large window for viewing the service and a speaker that will be playing all the audio from the main sanctuary. Please feel free to use that if you are concerned that your children’s noises are disrupting the service. Since it is a small room, we ask you to be judicious and careful to maintain recommended distancing should others also seek to use it.

We hope that this Lord’s Day you will be encouraged by the Word, refreshed by the worship, and touched by Christ’s love through our fellowship with one another.

MEDITATION

“I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a
beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”

— Isaiah 61:10 (ESV)

FELLOWSHIP AND TEACHING

—**Adult Sunday School** is studying 1 Timothy.

—**Men’s Breakfast** meets on 4th Saturdays, 9:00 a.m. at the church building, for a potluck meal and study of *Gentle and Lowly* by Dane Ortlund. Zoom access is available, if requested.

—Multiple **small groups** meet 1-2 times per month for teaching, prayer, and fellowship. Please speak to anyone on the session if you are interested in joining one.

—Each **Tuesday evening**, we have a potluck dinner at 6:30 (check your email for the weekly signup) followed by singing, prayer, and teaching at 7:00. Please come!

—**Women’s Bible Study** is studying Hebrews every 2 weeks at the church, at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays and at 6:30 p.m. on Thursdays. You can attend either date/time. Please see Robin Deane or Lisa Bentley if you have any questions.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is set for June 26-30, 2023!

If you are able to volunteer in any capacity, please tell Naomi Petko, and watch for information about upcoming planning meetings.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Income vs. Budget	12/04/2022	YTD
General Income	\$16,263.57	\$473,546.12
Budget Requirement	\$10,250.00	\$502,250.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$6,013.57	(\$28,703.88)
Attendance	122	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scheduled events can be found on the church's online [Calendar](#). It also can be viewed on the home page of www.spriggsroad.org.

PAINT NIGHT

Paint Night will be held December 16. Laurie Mang will lead a Monet inspired Paint Night from 6:30 to 9:00, so please gather your supplies and head to the Kims' garage studio for our next fun-filled time of fellowship, paint instruction, and food! Please RSVP to Laurie and refer to her email for details and the list of supplies.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

We will not have Sunday School on Christmas Day or New Year's Day. The worship service both days will be at our regular time, 10:45 a.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Session calls for a Congregational meeting on Sunday, December 18, 2022, following the morning worship service. The purpose of the meeting is to present to the congregation the 2023 budget and to act upon any proposed changes to the pastors' compensation packages.

SENIORS' LUNCH

The next Seniors' Fellowship Lunch will be Wednesday, December 14, noon to 1:30 p.m. at the church. Just bring your lunch and beverage; desserts will be provided. Please join us! Contact John or Paula Strain with any questions.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,

begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;

by whom all things were made;

who for us and for our salvation

came down from heaven,

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,

and was made man;

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered and was buried;

and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,

and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;

and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;

whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son;

who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;

who spoke by the prophets;

and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;

and we look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SERMON NOTES

12/11/2022

Pastor Michael Mang

Title: Gifts Christ Gives to Unify His Church” (Part 2)

Text: Ephesians 4:7-16

Theme: Christ’s ascension guarantees that His gifts to the Church will be effective and powerful. The LORD Christ blesses His people with gracious gifts that serve to bless the Body of Christ and enable it to build itself up. If you belong to Christ by faith, you have a share in this blessing.

I. Christ Jesus Gives Gifts That Are Based on His Victory and Ascension (7-10)

II. The Unique Gifts Christ Jesus Bestows Are Officers Who Minister His Word (11-13)

III. There Is a _____-Fold _____ That Flows from These Gifts (14-16)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Eternal Father, we acknowledge that we are poor sinners, conceived in guilt, prone to do evil, and unable of our own power to do good.

We constantly violate Your holy commandments intentionally and unintentionally. But, O Lord, with heartfelt sorrow we repent and turn away from all our offenses.

We abhor our iniquities and our evil ways. We plead Your grace and mercy to relieve our distress.

Have compassion on us, most gracious God, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant us daily increase of the grace of Your Holy Spirit and produce in us the fruit of righteousness that is pleasing in Your sight.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Personal Confession

This time of silence is provided for private, personal confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

“Already you are clean because of the word I have spoken to you. Abide in me, and I in you. ... As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love.”

— John 15:3-4, 9 (ESV)

Please seek out and contact one of our Pastors or Elders to talk more about your eternal future. You can find their contact information in this bulletin. They will be glad to show you from Scripture, God's Word, how you can have a relationship with God through Christ Jesus and have true peace and security with Him.

If you have professed faith in Christ Jesus, have been baptized, and are a member of the Church, yet there is a distance between you and the LORD because of cherished and unrepentant sin and transgressions of God's laws, we warn you to refrain from partaking the elements of the Lord's Table today. Scripture tells us that partaking of the Lord's Table is a participation, a communion, in the body and blood of Christ (1 Cor. 10:16). God's people cannot partake of His holy Table while at the same time engaging in deliberate and conscious violations of His commands for us as His holy people. If this is true with you, the LORD graciously promises that, if you confess and turn from whatever thinking or behavior that is contrary to His nature and His Word, He is faithful to forgive and to cleanse you from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9). Until you have confessed and turned from whatever this breach of faith might be, please refrain from partaking of the Lord's Table.

This does not mean that as a professing follower of Christ you are required to be perfect and flawless before communing with Christ at His Table. The Table is for you to be nourished and strengthened even more in your faith and love for Christ. You may have worries and doubts that God loves or hears you because your faith is weak. You may have sinned, confessed, and turned from it to the Lord before partaking, but still your heart condemns you. When you come to the Lord's Table, the Lord by faith assures you that you belong to Him, and He belongs to you. If, despite your sins and imperfections, you can truly say that the LORD is your Shepherd, that the name of Christ and His smile is the desire of your soul, then take the LORD at His word that you are ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven!

Come, and dine with your Lord and Savior.

IV. Applications

- A. As you become more mature in Christ, the gifts He bestows upon you will manifest themselves.

- B. Unity in the Body of Christ hinges on the officers being truly gifted by Christ and diligent in keeping the Word of God at the center of their service.

- C. You cannot grow strong or united apart from the word of God.

- D. The job of the ongoing offices is to _____ and _____ you and the entire Body of Christ to work _____ and to grow individually and corporately.

- E. There is always the continual _____ of spiritual _____ who are very clever at _____ and drawing away _____ and _____ Christians from the faith.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does Christ Jesus give to everyone who belongs to Him (v. 7)?
2. How does Paul prove this point (v. 8)?
3. What did Christ do that fulfilled the psalm Paul quoted (vv. 9-10)?
4. What five “things” does Christ then give to His people (v. 11)?
5. Describe what these five “things” are. Which of these five no longer continue? Which of these five do continue today?
6. What do these five “things” do (v. 12)?
7. What is the goal of their work (v. 13)?
8. What is the first mentioned result of reaching this goal (v. 14)?
9. What is the second mentioned result of reaching this goal (v. 15)?
10. What is the third mentioned result of reaching this goal (v. 16)?
11. Though Ephesians 4:7-16 focuses on the five-fold special gifts to the Church, does this mean that Christians not called to these offices are not thereby gifted or expected to serve in the Body of Christ? How would you show from this passage that every believer has a role to play in the Church? What other passage of Scripture teaches that every Christian receives a gift from God to bless God’s people?
12. How do you know what gifts God has given to you?
13. What enables the Church and individual expressions of the Church in local congregations to be spiritually strong and vibrant?
14. What spiritual errors and deceptions have “Shepherds” and “Teachers” in the Church identified and enabled you to avoid? What spiritual errors and deceptions have these officers missed and failed to identify?
15. Paul discusses in this passage the gifts that Christ gives to unify His Church. What kind of unity do you think this means? What does “attain to the unity of the faith” mean?
16. From an objective standpoint, how has the Christian faith (body of truth) become more united? Are there areas in which the Christian body of truth is not yet united? How do confessions and creeds contribute to the unity of the faith? Do they in any sense detract from unity?
17. From a subjective standpoint, how unified are Christians in the faith today?
18. What does “speaking the truth in love” look like in practice? Can a Christian speak the truth in love when what is said might be offensive and even hurtful to one’s feelings? Can speaking the truth in love be used as a cudgel to excuse a lack of sensitivity and graciousness?
19. How do you measure spiritual maturity in your life?
20. What does church growth look like? How is spiritual health in a congregation to be gauged? How might you know when there is a lack of health in a congregation?

THE LORD’S SUPPER

Announcement:

All are invited to the Lord’s Table who have been baptized, have publicly professed (either before a congregation of the Lord’s Church or to a body of Elders in a church where the Gospel of Christ is embraced) faith in and allegiance to the Lord Jesus Christ as the Savior from your sins, and are members of the visible Church of the Lord Jesus Christ.

If you have not publicly professed faith in Christ Jesus – the eternal Son of God who took on human flesh, lived a perfect, sinless life, died on the cross for sins, rose bodily from the dead, and who is returning to this earth in power and glory – please refrain from partaking of the Lord’s Table.

We invite you to respond to the Gospel by first understanding that you have sinned personally against the God who made you and have violated His good and right laws for you to follow. God is holy and has every right to separate you from Himself and from all that is good and beautiful because of your freely chosen disobedience to Him. But the really good news is that you can be restored to the God who made you because of what Christ Jesus has done on the cross as a perfect substitute and payment for the penalty that you owe and deserve. Simply believing and trusting in what Jesus did for you means you will belong to the LORD God forever.

Abraham, the Biblical example of one who was restored to God by faith alone, trusted God’s promise and the LORD God credited it, that trust, to him as righteousness. God has shown His love to the world, and to you, by giving His only Son that whoever believes in Him should not die and be separated from Him forever but rather have the life man was created to have in the presence of God, a life that never ends.

This means that you cannot DO anything to earn your place with God. However, a true faith in Christ Jesus comes from a God-given desire that will produce behavior that does those things that are pleasing to Him.