

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

The Lord of all comes as a slave amidst poverty. The hunter has no wish to startle his prey. Choosing for his birthplace an unknown village in a remote province, he is born of a poor maiden and accepts all that poverty implies, for he hopes by stealth to ensnare and save us.

If he had been born to high rank and amidst luxury, unbelievers would have said the world had been transformed by wealth. If he had chosen as his birthplace the great city of Rome, they would have thought the transformation had been brought about by civil power. Suppose he had been the son of an emperor. They would have said: "How useful it is to be powerful!" Imagine him the son of a senator. It would have been: "Look what can be accomplished by legislation!"

But in fact, what did he do? He chose surroundings that were poor and simple, so ordinary as to be almost unnoticed, so that people would know it was the Godhead alone that had changed the world. This was his reason for choosing his mother from among the poor of a very poor country, and for becoming poor himself.

– *Theodotus of Ancyra, a martyred saint from the 4th century*

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.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Income vs. Budget	1/1/2023	YTD
Undesignated Giving	\$6,588.75	\$6,588.75
Budget Requirement	\$9,230.77	\$9,230.77
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$2,642.02)	(\$2,642.02)
Attendance	133	

2022 End of Year Summary

General Income	\$526,668.37
Budget Requirement	\$533,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$6,331.63)

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.

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Beloved Church Family,

Laurie and I are very humbled and grateful for the generous Christmas gift you bestowed upon us during the season when we remember God's greatest gift to us. Thank you so very much for your love, kindness, and generosity towards those who minister the Word of God to you. What a distinct honor and blessing it is to serve a dedicated and faithful congregation of saints that you are. May our God continue to use us in His service to spread the great news of the Gospel that is the power of God unto salvation. From the bottom of our hearts, we thank you so very much.

Pastor Michael and Laurie

FELLOWSHIP MEAL TODAY

A Fellowship Meal will immediately follow the worship service today. Everyone is welcome.

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.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The 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

1/8/2023

Pastor Michael Mang

Title: "The New-Person-in-Christ Learns to Control Anger"

Text: Ephesians 4:26-27 (read vv. 25-32)

Theme: Unresolved anger is also another "killer" of unity within the Body of Christ. Often it is the buried and hidden anger that eventually erupts and causes divisions among the Lord's people. Our Enemy looks for anger in the heart of believers to establish a beachhead for his operations. We cannot let this happen.

I. Scripture Recognizes Times When _____ Occurs,
But It Must Not Lead to _____ (26a)

II. Anger Must Be _____ and _____
as _____ as Possible (26b)

III. The Devil Must Not Be _____
an _____ for Causing More Problems (27)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty God, we have sinned against You and against our fellow men in our thoughts, in our words, and in our deeds.

We have sinned in the evil we have done and in the good we have not done.

We have sinned through ignorance, through weakness, and through our own deliberate fault.

We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins.

For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, Who died for us, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve You in newness of life to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Personal Confession

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

"If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us."

— 1 John 1:8-10 (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. Anger can be _____ although it will still be _____ with _____.
- B. You are perhaps most _____ to anger and its effects when you feel you have a _____ of _____.
- C. Even if you are in the _____, you must _____ to _____ things out and to _____.
- D. _____ is often the result of _____ that has been turned _____.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What are Christians to put away in their lives (v. 25a)?
2. What does Paul single out as essential in how Christians are to interact and relate to one another (v. 25b)? Why is this important (v. 25c)?
3. How are Christians to handle anger (v. 26a)?
4. What is important when a Christian becomes angry (v. 26b)?
5. What is a potentially serious problem when a Christian gets angry (v. 27)?
6. What is Paul's command for those who came to Christ who had the practice and habit of stealing (v. 28)?
7. How are Christians not to speak to others (v. 29a)? How are Christians supposed to speak to others (v. 29b, c)?
8. Whom are Christians not to grieve (v. 30)?
9. What negative harmful actions and attitudes are not to be found among the people of God (v. 31)?
10. What positive actions and attitudes are to characterize Christians (v. 32)?
11. When do you sense you are most at risk to become angry?
12. When has your anger been productive for you?
13. When has your anger been destructive for you?
14. How might you identify anger within a body of believers that has been buried or ignored?
15. What might being angry, yet not sinning, look like in actual practice in your home? Your church?
16. What have you found is the hardest part in resolving your anger?
17. Does the passage of time help or hurt in getting over anger? Does Scripture require you to resolve by sundown every issue related to your anger?
18. How might you diffuse anger in someone when confronting them and attempting to work things out to a good resolution (for one possible approach, consult Proverbs 15:1)?
19. Have you had to deal with anger when the route to a resolution has been closed to you? What did you do?
20. As best as you know your own heart, are there any matters of anger and bitterness in your life at this moment? If so, what will you do to honor Christ and His Word to you in Ephesians 4:26-27 and not allow the anger to lead to sin, but instead to resolve the issue?

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.