

CONTACT INFORMATION

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Prayer Requests		prayerrequests@spriggsroad.org
Announcements, Calendar, and Bulletin		bulletin@spriggsroad.org
Website Submissions, Issues, Concerns		web.admin@spriggsroad.org



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 5, 2021

10:45 A.M.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Meditation

Call to Worship and Invocation

†Hymn of Worship

“Holy, Holy, Holy” TH#100

Greeting

†Song of Praise

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

†Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

Pastoral Prayer

†Scripture Reading

Psalm 102:1-17

†Singing Psalms

Psalm 123, TP p.110

Tune: “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” TH#223

Tithes & Offerings

†Gloria Patri

TH#735

Sermon Text

Luke 1:5-25

Expounding the Word of God

Pastor Matt Bowles

“When Being Muted Brings Hope”

†Hymn of Response

“Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” TH#197

‡The Lord's Supper

†Doxology

†Benediction

Postlude

†Standing, if able

‡Live stream ends before the Lord's Supper.

TH — Trinity Hymnal; TP — Trinity Psalter; TPH — Trinity Psalter 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 resumed our schedule of 9:30 Sunday School for all ages, and 10:45 worship, with nursery available for ages 3 and under. Masks are optional, but seating in the front left corner is reserved for any who prefer a masked and socially distanced option.

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

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the Lord, and on his law he meditates day and night. He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season, and its leaf does not wither. In all that he does, he prospers. The wicked are not so, but are like the chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

—Psalm 1 (ESV)

VBS INTEREST MEETING

We do not have a fellowship lunch today, but following the worship service (approx. 12:20), Pastor Matt will hold a short interest/informational meeting concerning **VBS** for the coming year. Please be in prayer for this and plan to attend so that we can see what level of interest there may be and to help begin the planning process.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Teen Christmas Night and ornament exchange (be creative!) will be held **Dec. 22 from 5-8. Location TBD. Please let Pastor Matt know if you can attend.

We will have a candlelit Christmas Eve service on **Dec. 24 at 7:00.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

Help is needed in the following areas of ministry at SRPC. Please consider offering your time in these important areas: **AV Team** (contact Darcy Heisey); **Bulletin Production** (contact Kate Bredbenner); **Nursery and Outdoor Safety Monitors** (contact Robin Deane)

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Income vs. Budget	11/28/2021	YTD
General Income	\$6,744.52	\$502,003.01
Budget Requirement	\$9,630.00	\$462,240.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$2,885.48)	\$39,763.01
Attendance	105	

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

There will be a Congregational Meeting following the worship service on **December 19, 2021**. The purpose of the meeting is to present the budget and to vote on proposed changes to the compensation packages of Pastor Michael and Pastor Matt.

SENIORS' LUNCH

If you are 50+, please consider joining the seniors for a good time of fellowship at the church from noon to 1:30 on Wednesday, **December 8**. Just bring your lunch and beverage; dessert will be provided. If you have questions, contact John or Paula Strain.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

Two Christian refugee families, living in Lake Ridge, are in need of transportation on Sunday afternoons to One Voice Fellowship (4:00-7:15 PM), a PCA church plant that meets in Vienna. The church has a teaching time for the first hour, then a dinner of international food, followed by a worship service with preaching in English and translation. Those going to the service are welcome to participate in the activities and dinner. There are a total of five people in need of transportation: a woman from Ghana and her son (age 10), and a woman from Pakistan with her two sons (8 and 10), who fled after being threatened for teaching children Christian songs. Her husband is currently still in hiding in Pakistan. Please prayerfully consider how you can help these families to worship with their church body. If you are interested in helping and perhaps joining a rotation, please contact one of our deacons.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting Amen.

SERMON NOTES

12/05/2021

Pastor Matt Bowles

Title: "When Being Muted Brings Hope"

Text: Luke 1:5-25

I. Righteous Suffering

II. The Soil of His Work

III. Prayers of God's People

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Father, we confess that we fail to forgive as we should. Pardon us for harboring anger and bitterness in our hearts instead of being kind and tender-hearted to forgive as God in Christ has forgiven us.

We grieve that we have been negligent and careless in carrying out Your commandments and duties. All Your laws and precepts reflect Your glory and are for our good.

We mourn that we would rather receive than give.

We abhor the times we waver and do not hold fast our confession that Jesus is Lord.

Because of Your great love and mercy, hear and forgive us.

May we always model the Gospel and show forth that our Lord Jesus has overcome all that has held us in bondage.

Through Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Personal Confession

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*"And I will have mercy on No Mercy,
and I will say to Not My People, 'You are my people';
and he shall say, 'You are my God.'" —
And in the place where it was said to them, "You are
not my people,"
it shall be said to them, "Children of the living God."*

— Hosea 2:23; 1:10 (ESV)

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. The Flip-Side of Rebuke

When looking at Zechariah and Elizabeth we realize that frequently in God's people we can see a gray cloud of _____ pressed together with the truth of salvation.

The pattern of God working in Sarah, Rebekah, _____, wife of _____ in Judges, Hannah in 1 Samuel and the unnamed woman in _____, and her unnamed son.

God does not despise the prayer of the _____. Psalm 102:17

Zechariah being mute could not pronounce the priestly _____.

LUKE 1:5-25 (ESV)

5 In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah. And he had a wife from the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. **6** And they were both righteous before God, walking blamelessly in all the commandments and statutes of the Lord. **7** But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years.

8 Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, **9** according to the custom of the priesthood, he was chosen by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. **10** And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense.

11 And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. **12** And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. **13** But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. **14** And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, **15** for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. **16** And he will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God, **17** and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared."

18 And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." **19** And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I was sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. **20** And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things take place, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." **21** And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they were wondering at his delay in the temple. **22** And when he came out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the temple. And he kept making signs to them and remained mute. **23** And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home.

24 After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she kept herself hidden, saying, **25** "Thus the Lord has done for me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among people."

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Announcement:

All are invited to the Lord's Table who have been baptized, have publicly professed faith in (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) 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.

Please seek out and contact one of our Pastors or Elders to talk