

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 4, 2022

10:45 A.M.

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Meditation**

**Call to Worship and Invocation**

† **Hymn of Worship**

“Give to Our God Immortal Praise”  
*TPH 215; TH 3* /Tune: “Jesus Shall Reign” *TPH 417; TH 441*

**Greeting**

† **Song of Praise**

“God, the Uncreated One”  
 (“King Forevermore”)

† **Confession of Faith**

**The Apostles' Creed**

**Pastoral Prayer**

† **Scripture Reading**

**Psalm 68:15-35** [Seat Bibles, p. 482]

† **Singing Psalms**

Psalm 123  
Tune: “While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks” *TPH 310; TH 223*

**Tithes & Offerings**

“Advent Prayer”

† **Gloria Patri**

*TPH 572; TH 735*

**Sermon Text**

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

**Expounding the Word of God**

Pastor Michael Mang

**“Gifts Christ Gives to Unify His Church”**

† **Hymn of Response**

“O Lord, Thou Hast Ascended” *TPH 68B*  
Tune: “The Church's One Foundation” *TPH 404; TH 347*;

**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

“Men will never worship God with a sincere heart or be roused to fear and obey Him with sufficient zeal until they properly understand how much they are indebted to His mercy.”

—John Calvin

## 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 sign-up) 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	11/27/2022	YTD
General Income	\$6,161.60	\$457,282.55
Budget Requirement	\$10,250.00	\$492,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)	(\$4,088.40)	(\$34,717.45)
Attendance	129	

## 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](http://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.

## CHRISTMAS FLOCK

Please mark your calendar for our annual Christmas FLOCK (Fun-Loving Older Covenant Kids) party on Saturday, Dec 10th, at 6 p.m. This is a festive evening for the adults of the church (age 18 and older), where we share an upscale potluck and then have a "white elephant" gift exchange game. The gift exchange typically has a mix of nice gifts, funny gifts, and truly white elephant gifts, some of which have a long history in the game. Please keep gift prices below \$25.

This is always a fun, special time of fellowship. We hope you can join us! The sign-up link is in email and on the church Facebook page, and RSVP's are (really!) due today.

## 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

12/04/2022

Pastor Michael Mang

Title: Gifts Christ Gives to Unify His Church”

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 \_\_\_\_\_ That Are Based on His \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (7-10)

II. The \_\_\_\_\_ Gifts Christ Jesus Bestows Are \_\_\_\_\_ Who \_\_\_\_\_ His Word (11-13)

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

## 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)

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 \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ, the \_\_\_\_\_ He bestows upon you will \_\_\_\_\_ themselves.
  
- B. Unity in the Body of Christ hinges on the officers being truly \_\_\_\_\_ by Christ and \_\_\_\_\_ in keeping the Word of God at the \_\_\_\_\_ of their service.
  
- C. You cannot grow \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ apart from the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_.
  
- 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. Did Paul “change” Psalm 68:18 to mean something different? Why or why not?
12. What does the phrase “descended into the lower regions, the earth” mean?  
What phrase in “The Apostles’ Creed” is based on this phrase in Ephesians 4:9?  
What view of this phrase in “The Apostles’ Creed” does *The Westminster Larger Catechism*, Question 50, take?
13. What is the significance of Christ’s ascension in this passage?
14. What was unique and non-repeatable about the office of Apostles and Prophets?
15. How would you substantiate that Apostles and Prophets no longer operate personally in the Church today?
16. Whom would you consider an Evangelist today? Why?
17. What is another term for “Shepherd”? Who were shepherds of God’s people in the Old Covenant?
18. What is the debate surrounding the offices of “Shepherds” and “Teachers”?
19. How has the Reformed Presbyterian tradition in this country viewed the relationship between “Shepherds” and “Teachers”?
20. What is the common thread inherent in all these offices?

## 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.