

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 18, 2022

10:45 A.M.

Prelude "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" *TPH 311; TH 203*

Welcome and Announcements

Meditation

Call to Worship and Invocation

†**Hymn of Worship** "Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" *TPH 439*
Tune: "All for Jesus!" *TPH 502; TH 565*

Greeting

†**Song of Praise** "O Come, All Ye Faithful" *TPH 319; TH 208*

†**Confession of Faith** *The Apostles' Creed*

Pastoral Prayer

†**Scripture Reading** *Ecclesiastes 1:1-11* [Seat Bibles, p. 553]

†**Singing Psalms** Psalm 42
Tune: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear" *TH 100*

Tithes & Offerings "There Shall a Star from Jacob Shine"

†**Gloria Patri** *TPH 572; TH 735*

Sermon Text *Ephesians 4:17-24* [Seat Bibles, p. 978]

Expounding the Word of God Pastor Michael Mang

**"The Stark Difference Between
the Christian and the Non-Christian"**

†**Hymn of Response** "Spirit of God, Dwell Thou within My Heart"
TPH 393

The Lord's Supper

†**Doxology**

†**Benediction**

Postlude "Angels We Have Heard on High" *TPH 318; TH 214*

†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

“He may look on death with joy, who can look on forgiveness with faith.”

— Thomas Watson

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 Ortland. 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	12/11/2022	YTD
General Income	\$15,043.00	\$488,589.12
Budget Requirement	\$10,250.00	\$512,500.00
Surplus (Deficit)	\$4,793.00	(\$23,910.88)
Attendance	145	

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.

YEAR-END GIVING

Contributions that are in the possession of the church by the end of the day on December 31 are counted as 2022 contributions. The funds do not need to be deposited to be counted as contributions in 2022.

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

A congregational meeting will follow today's 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 EVE SERVICE

The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be at 7:00 p.m. Please bring family and friends to join us for this special worship service.

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

12/18/2022

Pastor Michael Mang

Title: "The Stark Difference Between the Christian and the Non-Christian"

Text: Ephesians 4:17-24

Theme: The Christian is categorically different from the non-Christian. The new self in Christ is the stark difference. When a Christian thinks and lives according to the Gentile mind, the unity of the Spirit in the Body of Christ breaks down.

- I. Christians Are Commanded Not to Live as People _____ God's _____ (17)
- II. The _____ Description of Non-Christian _____ Is Vividly _____ (18-19)
- A. Their _____ of the World Is Without True _____ (18a)
- B. They Are _____ to What True _____ Means (18b)
- C. They Have Lost the _____ to Be _____ Regarding Their Desires (19a)
- D. They _____ in All Kinds of Moral and Religious _____ (19b)
- III. Christians Are a Totally _____ Kind of People (20-24)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Our Father in heaven, You call us to be thankful in all things, yet we confess we are often ungrateful and unsatisfied with Your providence. We acknowledge our ingratitude, and we implore You to forgive us for not being thankful.

We are to be cheerful givers, O LORD, yet we often grudgingly give to Your Kingdom. Forgive us for our insincerity and selfishness.

You, O God, have blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms in Christ, yet we complain about our circumstances and think that we deserve more.

Hear and forgive us for the sake of Your dear Son, Christ Jesus our Lord.

Set our hearts to love and serve You in sincerity and truth, for we pray in His Name. Amen.

Personal Confession

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Sing praises to the LORD, O you his saints, and give thanks to his holy name. For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

— Psalm 30:4-5 (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. All of us are _____ by the Gentile way of thinking. The crucial matter is to _____ and _____ it.
- B. Christians still _____ outwardly like people in the _____ in many ways, but on the inside, we are _____ different.
- C. The Gentile mind is a complete _____ to the Christian mind in _____.
- D. If you _____ the absolute _____ between the non-Christian way of thinking and living and that of the believer in Christ, you will be in _____ of putting back on the _____.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What words indicate that what Paul says in verses 17-24 is very solemn and important (v. 17a)?
2. What is the central command Paul gives to Christians (v. 17b)?
3. What is the general description of the Gentile way of life (v. 17c)?
4. What is the first specific description of the non-Christian life (v. 18a)?
5. What is the second specific description of the non-Christian life (v. 18b)?
6. What is the third specific description of the non-Christian life (v. 19a)?
7. What is the fourth specific description of the non-Christian life (v. 19b)?
8. What is true about the Christian (vv. 20-21)?
9. Where is truth found (v. 21b)?
10. What are Christians to put off? What is this? (v. 22)?
11. How are Christians to put off the “old man” (v. 23)?
12. What are Christians to put on? What is this? (v. 24)?
13. Where do you often encounter the Gentile way of thinking?
14. How might you most recognize the Gentile way of thinking?
15. How can the Gentile life be futile when it has produced many things that seem to endure and profit people?
16. If the non-Christian mind and life are described in such negative terms, why do many non-Christians seem like such good people?
17. What is at the root of the Gentile way of thinking and living? Where do you pinpoint opposition between the Christian and the non-Christian way of thinking and living?
18. How can Christian families raise their children to think and live according to the new man in Christ when many things in the world seem so virtuous and appealing?
19. How do Christians and non-Christians think differently on the issue of marriage? Family? Sexuality? Gender?
20. What are ways and areas in which Christians forget the different mind-sets between the Christian and the non-Christian? In what areas today do Christians have the tendency to compromise the antithesis between the “new man” and the “old man” ways of living and thinking?
21. If the non-Christian thinks and lives so differently from the Christian, should a believer have a non-believing friend? Spouse? Business partner?

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.