

St. John's Presbyterian Church

October 27, 2024

10:30 a.m.



Vision Statement

Worship God

Love One Another

Serve the World

Worship Participants

The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor
Chyannah Rowe, Lay Reader
Susan Horst, Music Director
Sue Goodenow, Organist
Chancel Choir

1070 W. Plumb Lane
Reno, Nevada 89509
(775) 826-0990

Website

www.stjohnschurch.org

St. John's Presbyterian Church

October 27, 2024

10:30 a.m.

*Please stand in Body or Spirit

BOLD People's Response

GATHERING

Prelude (Sue Goodenow, Organist)

Fugue on *Ein Feste Burg*

Arranged by Roland Diggle

Welcome/Announcements (The Rev. Kent Meads)

Please sign our Ministry of Friendship pad and pass it to the person sitting next to you.

Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord is my constant companion. There is no need He cannot fulfill.

People: Whether His course for me points to the mountains of human joy or to the valleys of human sorrows, He is by my side.

Leader: He is present with me when I flirt with death itself. He is close beside me when depression darkens my soul.

People: When I feel empty and alone, He fills the aching vacuum with His love and joy.

Leader: My security is in His promise to be near me all the days of my life.

People: And in the knowledge that He will never let me go.

*Hymn No. 260 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, CCLI# 42964 Public Domain/One License# 114879

*Morning Prayer (Chyannah Rowe, Lay Reader)

Loving God, Great Shepherd of our lives, we thank You for Your goodness which guards and guides us each day. We praise Your kindness which nourishes our hearts, heals our hurts, and lifts our hopes. We celebrate Your love which calls us by name, welcomes us into Your presence, and gives us life abundant. Above all, we thank You for Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd, who laid down His life for the sheep. Encounter us today through Your Shepherding Spirit that we may be led by Your grace to dwell in Your presence forevermore. Amen.

*The Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

People: And also with you.

*Hymn *Glory Be to the Father*

**Glory be to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 577; CCLI# 221194

Moment with Young Disciples Vacation Bible School Kathryn Smith/Ann McElreath

Anthem (Susan Horst, Music Director)
Chancel Choir

THE WORD

Message

Prayer: When God says, 'Wait?'

The Rev. Kent Meads

Luke 18.1-8

¹And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart.

²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man.

³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'"

⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

(ESV)

(The Message)

¹Jesus told them a story showing that it was necessary for them to **pray consistently and never quit.**

²⁻³He said, "There was once a **judge** in some city who never gave God a thought and cared nothing for people.

A **widow** in that city kept after him: 'My rights are being violated. Protect me!'

⁴⁻⁵"He never gave her the time of day. But after this went on and on he said to himself, 'I care nothing what God thinks, even less what people think. But because this widow won't quit badgering me, I'd better do something and see that she gets justice—otherwise I'm going to end up beaten black-and-blue by her pounding.'"

⁶⁻⁸Then **the Master** said, "Do you hear what that judge, corrupt as he is, is saying? So what makes you think God won't step in and work justice for his chosen people, who **continue to cry out for help?** Won't he stick up for them? I assure you, he will. He will not drag his feet. But how much of that kind of **persistent faith** will the Son of Man find on the earth when he returns?"

Jesus's Purpose (v.1)

In the parable Jesus is teaching us that in hard or difficult circumstance the faithful hang on to God.

And the way, we hang on to God, is by persistence and faithfulness in the practice of prayer.

The Parable (vv. 2-5)

1. The Judge (v.2)

A root issue is "shame" in v.2 not "respect" or "cared" the translation in the bulletin.

The word means "to make some ashamed." (Bailey)

Bribery is obviously the only way to influence such a heartless person.

2. The widow (v.3)

She is a typical symbol of the innocent, the powerless oppressed.

Her persistent behavior, "she kept after him," is connected to her continual cry, 'My rights are being violated. Protect me!'

3. The Judge's soliloquy (vv. 4-5)

The Arabic translation is "lest she give me a headache!" (Bailey)

The widow's perseverance conquers his shameless behavior.

Jesus's and the Parable's Purpose (vv. 1, 6-8)

Vv. 1 and 6-8 act as a parenthesis around the parable.

If the widow's needs are met, **how much more** the Jesus's disciples and our who pray not to a harsh judge but to a loving Father?

God stands in contrast to the judge.

Jesus raises a question: "how much of that kind of **persistent faith** will the Son of Man find on the earth when he returns?" (v.8)

What we hear, in the question is 'when **persevering prayer** disappears, so does **faith**.

I'll give you examples:

1. Luther

2. Calvin

3. Jesus

Why do we need to pray persistently? A personal experience.

*Hymn No. 403 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 27714 Public Domain/One License# EXS00321SD Public Domain

Receiving the Morning Offering

Offertory

God the Father, Be Our Stay

Setting by Paul Manz

*Please stand in Body or Spirit
BOLD People's Response

*Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 592; CCLI# 68003 Public Domain/One License# 96892 Public Domain

Prayers of the People (Prayers for our Future Pastor)

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SENDING

*Hymn No. 276 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, CCLI# 18723 Public Domain/One License# 95006

*Charge and Benediction

Postlude *Praise His Greatness* (Hyfrydol and *Great Is the Lord*) Arr. Mark Hayes

**Join us for Fellowship Time
in Martin Hall after our worship service.**

STATED CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is set for TODAY (October 27, 2024), for the election of Deacons and Elders.

DONATE ONLINE



Use your mobile device to scan the QR code and donate online!

Please note that any online donations should be made before the 27th of each month. Donations made after that may not be transferred to our account in time to be included in that month's totals. While they will be counted in the next month, this could impact your year-end totals.

FALL CLEAN-UP DAY



Save the Date! Saturday, November 2nd, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm. Join us for our **annual Fall Clean-Up Day!** Let's come together as a church family to tidy up our grounds and get everything ready for the upcoming season. Whether you're a gardening pro or just enjoy the crisp autumn air, **we need your help!**

What to Bring:

- Gloves
- Rakes
- Any outdoor tools you have

We'll provide:

- Bags
- Refreshments
- Plenty of smiles!

Come for an hour or stay the whole morning—**every bit helps!** It's a great opportunity for fellowship and to showcase your leaf-raking skills!

A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex. Please sign up on the clipboard at the round table so we can prioritize tasks and prepare enough **hot soup**. Stan White and Sandy Sanborn will be in the Narthex after the Worship Service to answer any questions. We hope to see you there!

THE PASTOR NOMINATING COMMITTEE (PNC) has begun its work. Committee members are Dale Clark (Chair), John Dutton (Vice Chair), Jann Carmichael (Secretary), Kelley Bottomly (Treasurer), Sue Goodenow, Sarah Deardorff, Nancy Lim, Marc Ullom, Susan Goodman (Presbytery Advisor). The PNC appreciates your prayers as they work to determine the best candidate/(s) to lead St. John's ministry in the future.

NEW NAMETAGS for Members and Friends are here! If you did not receive yours or would like to request one, or if your name was spelled incorrectly, please contact the church office at office@stjohnschurch.org or write your name on the clipboard located on the table with the nametags.

JOIN THE MULTI MEDIA COMMITTEE!

We are in need of a **volunteer** to help keep our church website updated! If you're comfortable with basic website management and would like to serve in this important role, please contact the church office (office@stjohnschurch.org or 775-826-0990). Your help will ensure we keep our community informed, engaged, and updated!

This Week at St. John's Presbyterian Church
October 27—November 3, 2024

Sun. Oct. 27		
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
9:15 am	Sunday Morning Study	Clawson Memorial Library
10:00 am-10:30 am	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Stated Congregational Meeting	Sanctuary
12:00 pm	Fellowship Time	Martin Hall
12:00 pm-12:30 pm	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
Mon. Oct. 28		
9:30 am	AlAnon-Monday Morning Wake-Up	Martin Hall
6:30 pm	Bella Voce Rehearsal	Sanctuary
Tues. Oct. 29		
1:00 pm	AlAnon-Family Group	Martin Hall
6:30 pm	Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band	Martin Hall
Wed. Oct. 30		
11:30 am	Newcomers Artist	Martin Hall
1:00 pm	The Other Brothers Two Band Rehearsal	Music Room
6:00 pm	Coyote Crossing Band Rehearsal	D104,106,108
6:30 pm	AlAnon Wednesday Night Beginner's Group	Martin Hall
6:30 pm	Pastor Nominating Committee	Clawson Memorial Library
Thurs. Oct. 31		
3:30 pm	Sierra NV Children's Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
Fri. Nov. 1		
No Events Scheduled		
Sat. Nov. 2		
9:00 am	Fall Clean Up Day	Church Grounds
Sun. Nov. 3		
All Saints Sunday		
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
9:15 am	Sunday Morning Study	Clawson Memorial Library
10:00 am-10:30 am	Clawson Memorial Library Open	
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fall Fest Appetizer Potluck	Martin Hall
12:00 pm-12:30 pm	Clawson Memorial Library Open	

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- Nov. 2:** Fall Clean Up Day
- Nov. 3:** All Saints Sunday
Fall Fest Appetizer Potluck (after worship)
- Nov. 10:** Stewardship Sunday
New Members Class
- Nov. 14:** Series on Christianity in the Arts: Chrismons
- Nov. 17:** Kirkin' o' the Tartans (Bring your Tartan)
- Nov. 24:** ADVENTure Craft Event
- Nov. 30:** Hanging of the Greens
- Dec. 24:** Christmas Eve Service (Time to be announced)

Staff

The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor
Elaine York, Pastor
Maria Winchester, Administrative Assistant
Liz Salas, Financial Secretary
Lucas Parke, Security Sexton

Music Staff

Susan Horst, Music Director
David Brock, Organist

Elders

Class of 2024

John Dutton, St. John's Children's Center
Rew Goodenow, Personnel
Winnie Kortemeier, Worship
Jeannine Stewart, Membership/Welcoming

Class of 2025

Aaron Karr, Multi Media
Doris Krater, Finance
Amy Willoughby, Nominating
Elaine York, Fellowship and Nurture

Class of 2026

Nancy Lim (2nd Term), Missions
Stan Peck, Membership/Welcoming
Kathryn Smith, Christian Education
Stan White, Building and Grounds

Deacons

Class of 2024

Judy Mahon
Christie Pierce
Jewel White
Bev Zakariassen

Class of 2025

Ron Scovill
Ann Peterson
June Rosta

Class of 2026

Sarah Deardorff (2nd Term)
Ann McElreath, Chair
John Mahon
Marc Ullom

Pastor Nominating Committee

Dale Clark, Chair
John Dutton, Vice Chair
Jann Carmichael, Secretary
Kelley Bottomley, Treasurer

Sue Goodenow
Sarah Deardorff
Nancy Lim
Marc Ullom

Multi Media Team

Aaron Karr, Chair
John Dutton
Lucas Parke
Chyennah Rowe, Staff
Maria Winchester, Staff