



Park Presbyterian Church

Thursday, October 7, 2021

Weekly Park Branches

This Week's Sermon

"The Power of Scripture—and The
Passion of Prayer"

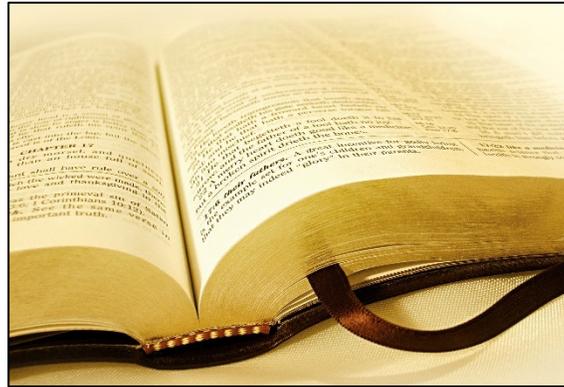
Scriptures

[Hebrews 4:12-16](#)

Contact Us

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724-775-2936



Dear Friends,

What do you think of when you hear the term “The Word of the Lord”? For many of us, I’d wager, we think first of the Bible.

The church reformers of the 16th century placed a primacy upon Scripture that remains front and center for us, as Presbyterians, and for good reason: We cannot hope to know about Jesus Christ without the witness to him provided by Scripture. But there is more: If we want to know the will and ways of God, we need to look at the life and ministry of Jesus, as well. Indeed, it can also be said that Jesus is also “the Word of the Lord.”

As we continue our look at the Letter to the Hebrews in Sunday, worship, I am intrigued by the descriptions given to “the Word of the Lord” by the writer of this letter. “The Word of the Lord”, he writes, “is living and active.” It is “piercing” and “judging.” Such descriptions can put us on edge—as they should: One look at Scripture shows Jesus to embody these qualities. And, yet, in this same passage, the writer speaks of Jesus himself as one who can “sympathize with our weakness”. He speaks of our Lord as also being someone who “in every respect has been tested as we are.” Here, indeed, is a comforting testimony regarding the One who we worship and serve.

Are these two portraits of Jesus incompatible?

The Letter to the Hebrews, as we will explore further today, is a remarkable testimony to the length, height, breadth, and depth of the love of God shown for us in Christ Jesus. I invite you—both today and in the days to come—to read how the writer of this letter brings together these two aspects of our Lord into a single, unified, portrait. To my mind, this epistle remains as relevant as ever to our work and witness as ever.

Faithfully,

Todd

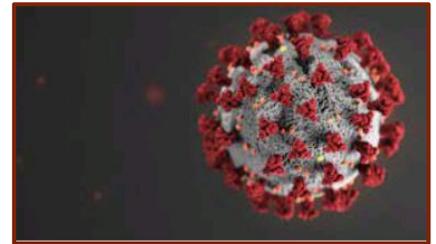
Sunday Worship as Park Apart

The worship video will be available on Sunday at 11:00 am and you can continue to find us anytime thereafter at <https://www.parkpres.org/swl-sunday-worship-live>. The bulletin for the service can also be found on the [Sunday Worship page](#) of our site. If you have announcements or prayer requests, please send them to Todd Allen on Sunday morning via text/call at 612-554 6527.

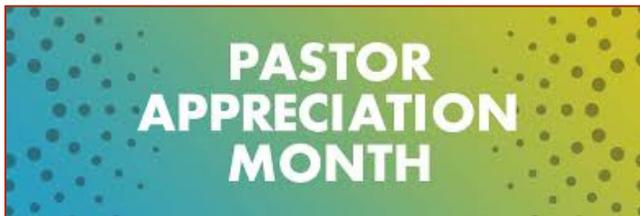
New Mask Policy

During September Session meeting, the Session had a lengthy discussion about the mask policy at Park. Due to the highly transmissible nature of the Delta variant and the recent spike of cases in Beaver County, the Session strongly encourages masks to be worn by all, vaccinated or unvaccinated, out of consideration for fellow church members and guests. Should you forget your mask, disposable masks are available in the sanctuary.

Thank you for your cooperation in this new policy as we strive to serve one another well.



October Is Pastor Appreciation Month!



We are so blessed to have our new pastor, Rev. Todd Allen! We look forward to a long and exciting season of ministry together!

We appreciate you, Pastor Todd!

Get to Know the Pastor

All are invited to a "Get-to-Know Todd" presentation that will follow worship on Sunday, October 10th. Come to Guild Hall, where Todd will offer a PowerPoint presentation illustrating his life journey and some of his favorite things!



Monthly "Fellowship Sundays" Following Worship



Beginning next month, we will enjoy time together with friends and neighbors following worship on the first Sunday of each month. For November, there be an additional time of fellowship on the 21st, Christ the King Sunday, as we celebrate and give thanks for the Kingship of Christ and the blessings of our lives. We are seeking volunteers to host these events. A sign up sheet on the table in the Gathering Area.

Church Office

The church office has been a bit busy this week, as we've been preparing for a new office computer and upgrades. We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause. Installation of the new equipment will be completed by the end of next week. In the meantime, we'll do our best to help with anything you need, it just may take a little extra time during the transition to a new system. Thanks for your patience!



An Overview of Per Capita

Deeply rooted in Presbyterian history — the first-known mention of per capita dates back to 1734 in a letter to ministers — per capita makes it possible for the Office of the General Assembly (OGA) to organize and manage General Assembly, as well as to staff and support special committees and commissions, provide legal counsel for churches dealing with staff issues and seek ways to minister to a growing immigrant population.



Throughout history Per capita has provided the OGA with the means to strengthen the connections of our work and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God’s love through mission and ministry. Per capita funds allow the OGA to support the ministry and witness of congregations and mid councils in many ways, such as:

- Gathering church leaders from presbyteries and synods for training events
- Supporting work in the area of ordered ministry, helping all Presbyterians respond to God’s call in their lives as teaching elders, ruling elders, and deacons
- Providing necessary tools to develop and administer ordination exams to seminarians preparing to become future pastors
- Maintaining Church Leadership Connection, the online system that supports the call process for pastors and congregations
- Supporting the Presbyterian Historical Society, ensuring that our witness to the gospel today will be preserved for future generations, just as we have learned about the history of past generations
- Providing a Presbyterian presence at ecumenical groups and gatherings in this country and worldwide--extending our mission efforts and our work for peace and justice far beyond what we can do by ourselves to promote Christian unity

As a congregation we derive many material benefits from our Presbyterian association through General Assembly, Synod of the Trinity, and the Beaver-Butler Presbytery. To learn more about the ministry of the Synod of the Trinity and Beaver-Butler Presbytery, visit syntrinity.org and beaverbutler.org.

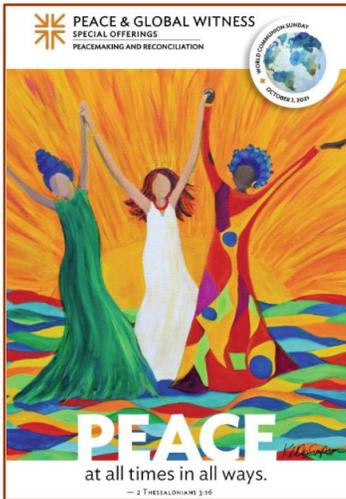
The Book of Order states, “God calls believers today to be disciplined and generous in giving support to the ministries of the church. Per capita is part of the glue that holds Presbyterians together by supporting various ministries in our church. Per capita allows us to work with other churches to further the witness and mission of Jesus Christ in the world. To this end, per capita is a form of stewardship at the presbytery, synod, and General Assembly levels allowing us to use our gifts, talents, and resources to promote the mission of the triune God.”

The Park Church Finance Commission highly recommends reading an article “Stated Clerk: What per capita pays for, why it matters” by J. Herbert Nelson which was published in the January 2, 2020, [Presbyterian Outlook](#).

Have you submitted your Per capita for this year? If you are not certain, contact Lucy Flynn. If you haven’t submitted for this year, please consider doing so during this final quarter of 2021.

Beaver-Butler Presbytery	\$29.44
Synod of the Trinity	2.40
General Assembly	8.98
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Total for 2021	\$40.82

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10.



Peace and Global Witness Offering

The Peace & Global Witness Offering supports the peacemaking and reconciliation efforts of the church at every governing body level.

Gifts given through a congregation are divided in the following manner: 25% is retained by congregations for support of their own peace and reconciliation efforts; 25% retained by mid-councils (12.5% presbytery/12.5% synod) for support of their own peace and reconciliation efforts; and 50% to the Mission Agency to provide assistance and resources for congregations to promote the peace of Christ.

Online gifts to the Peace & Global Witness Offering are used on the General Assembly level. Congregations should remit their funds to the presbytery using the [remittance form](#). The last Sunday to contribute will be Sunday October 3.



Celebrating Birthdays this week and next:

Carrie O'Neill Gibson	10/08
Jonelle Conley	10/09
Judith Kunselman	10/09
Elizabeth Jurich	10/12
Gene Gourley	10/13
Shirley Shoop	10/14
Bob Fedeles	10/16