Witherspoon Street Presbyterian Church

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E-mail: witherspoon@verizon.net Website: www.witherspoonchurch.org

Rev. Donald Pitches, Guest Preacher Jeff Yuan, Lector Edin Orellana, Sexton

Fumi Korodan, Director of Music

Cynthia Parker, Office Manager

May 7, 2023

10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

Lord I Need You

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalms 118: 1-4, 22-29) O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!He knows us each by our name. Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever." Let the house of Aaron say, "His steadfast love endures forever." Let those who fear the Lord say, "His steadfast love endures forever." The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. Save us; we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you; give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession with branches,

up to the horns of the altar.

You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever.

GATHERING HYMN Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above (PH #483)

Sing praise to God, who reigns above, The God of all creation, The God of power, the God of love, The God of our salvation; With healing balm my soul is filled, And every faithless murmur stilled: To God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power hath made God's gracious mercy keepeth; By morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth; Within the kingdom of God's might, Lo! all is just and all is right: To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, But through all grief distressing, An ever present help and stay, Our peace and joy and blessing; As with a mother's tender hand, God gently leads the chosen band: To God all praise and glory!

Thus, all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud Thy praises That all may hear the grateful song My voice unwearied raises. Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, Both soul and body bear your part: To God all praise and glory!

CALL TO CONFESSION

No one is lost to God. All are welcome to witness and receive God's saving grace. Let us confess our sins before our Savior.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You send us, God of the Great Commission, but we hedge and hesitate; we see stones in the road and obstacles in our way.

Forgive our fear and our excuses. We are witnesses of your grace and glory but allow others to silence our praise. We imprison ourselves with doubt and shame and fail to shine your light for all to see. Forgive our fears. Free our testimony, and let us stand upon the rock that is higher than ourselves. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Christ has transformed us. Christ has renewed us.

We are a new creation through Christ's death and resurrection, ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

(PH #579)

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

WELCOME OF GUESTS AND VISITORS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you! And also with you!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road. Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace. Open us to discerning your will and your way. Amen.

FIRST READING 1 Peter 2:1-10 The Living Stone and a Chosen People

¹Rid yourselves, therefore, of all malice, and all guile, insincerity, envy, and all slander. ²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." ⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," ⁸and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. ⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

SECOND READING

John 14:1-14 Jesus the Way to the Father

¹"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. ²In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

⁴And you know the way to the place where I am going." ⁵Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" ⁶Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." ⁸Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." ⁹Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? ¹⁰Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves.

¹²Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

SERMON <i>Well, Now That You Know.</i>	Donald Pitches
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AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(from A Brief Statement of Faith)

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICERS Karen Delk and Rowena Mascoll

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AA Hymnal Litany #15 (New Testament, right)

PRESENTATION OF THE NOMINEES AND CANDIDATES FOR OFFICE

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR CANDIDATES

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS FOR CONGREGATION

LAYING ON OF HANDS AND PRAYERS OF ORDINATION AND COMMISSIONING

WELCOME TO THIS MINISTRY

ORDINATION / INSTALLATION HYMN Take My Life (PH #391 vs. 1, 3, 6)

Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee. Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise, let them flow in endless praise.

Take my voice and let me sing always, only, for my King. Take my lips and let them be filled with messages from thee, filled with messages from thee.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store. Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee, ever, only, all for thee.

THE LORD'S SUPPER CELEBRATED

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

COMMUNION HYMN

Let Us Break Bread Together (PH #513)

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees;) Let us break bread together on our knees. (on our knees.) When I fall on my knees, With my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

Let us drink wine together on our knees; (on our knees;) Let us drink wine together on our knees. (on our knees.) When I fall on my knees, With my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

Let us praise God together on our knees; (on our knees;) Let us praise God together on our knees. (on our knees.) When I fall on my knees, With my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAD BROKEN AND SHARED

CUP POURED OUT AND SHARED

PRAYER OF THANKS

CALL FOR THE OFFERING Humbled by God's generosity, let us offer our gifts to God and God's ministries through Christ's church.

OFFERTORY SELECTION

The Church's One Foundation (PH #442)

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord; She is His new creation By water and the word. From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride; With His own blood He bought her And for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, Yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of salvation One Lord, one faith, one birth; One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food, And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder This world sees her oppressed, By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed, Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?" And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.

Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war, She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore; Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest, And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth has union With God the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won: O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we, Like them, the meek and lowly, May live eternally.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you meet our needs and transform us for service. Accept these gifts as signs of our gratitude and our commitment to witness to Christ's ministry in your world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVITATION TO FELLOWSHIP

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and 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

To God be the Glory (PH #485)

To God be the glory, great things He hath done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, Who yielded His life an atonement for sin, And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done, And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; But purer, and higher, and greater will be Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the people rejoice! O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, And give Him the glory: great things He hath done. BENEDICTION

AMEN

POSTLUDE

Traditional

The Heart of Worship

Today's liturgy was created by Donald Pitches, Teri McDowell Ott, as published in The Presbyterian Outlook, and Lauren McFeaters.

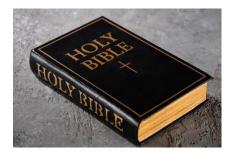
OFFICE HOURS 112 WITHERSPOON ST. М-F 10:00 А.М. - 2:00 Р.М.

THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED MONDAY, MAY 8 AND TUESDAY, MAY 9

The CDC's most recent COVID Community Levels for Mercer County remain Low. Witherspoon's COVID protocols for in-church worship service going forward are that masks are optional for in church worship for low risk parishioners and are highly recommended for people at high risk for severe illness in consultation with their health care providers. Hand sanitizing before entering the sanctuary and social distancing within each pew such as sitting on the ends or in the middle of a pew are in effect. Self health screening at home is encouraged prior to worship. If you are not well, please stay at home and contact your healthcare provider. Witherspoon will continue to monitor our COVID Community Levels weekly and update our protocols when the levels change.



WELCOME – The Elders and Deacons of Witherspoon warmly welcome all worshipers. Our fellowship is enriched by your presence. If you do not have a church home of your own, we do sincerely invite you to be a part of our fellowship. Please contact the church office if you are interested in church membership or if you want to be added to the church e-mail to Our Church distribution list. (witherspoon@verizon.net or 609-924-1666)



SATURDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We invite you to connect with us each Saturday morning at 10 a.m. to study and discuss scripture. All are welcome to be with us as we learn together. May 6 CANCELLED May 13 Isaiah Chapters 17, 18, 19:16-24 May 20 Isaiah 36 & 37

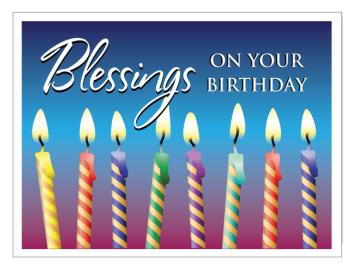


WE HAVE A FACEBOOK PAGE! "Like" our Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/WitherspoonStreetChurch) to get the latest updates on your wall. Share your WSPC comments,

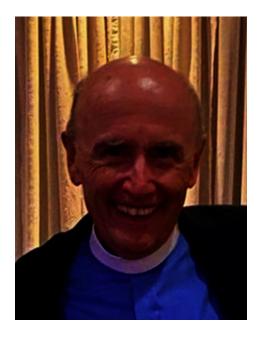
photos and videos. If you want pictures added or notices posted please send an email to the church office (<u>witherspoon@verizon.net</u>).

IN APPRECIATION FOR THEIR SERVICE

Our Communion Preparer Mary McGriff, Communion Servers, Ushers, and Tech Media Team



FELLOWSHIP HOUR BIRTHDAY AND ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS will be held Sunday **May 28** immediately following Worship Service. If you are celebrating a Birthday or Anniversary in May, the Deacons invite you, your family and friends to join us in celebrating you and your important event on this the last Sunday of your special event month.



GUEST PREACHER REV. DONALD PITCHES

I was ordained by the Hudson River Presbytery in 1976 in the Dayspring PC in Yonkers, NY. My first church was the Immanuel PC in Amsterdam, NY, and The First Presbyterian Church of West Galway, from 1976-1984. In September 1984, I was an occasional Pulpit Supply at the First PC of Carlstadt, NJ.

In January 1985, I became a part-time Stated Supply Pastor while also serving as a hospice chaplain in Montclair and as NJ State Correctional Chaplain. From 1991-2019, I served the Carlstadt church full-time, retiring at the end of December 2019. During that time, I was active in the Bergen County Council of Churches serving as President for four years. I served the Carlstadt Fire Department as Chaplain and from 1998 as a firefighter with Engine Company 1, rising to the rank of Captain.

Following retirement, my wife and I moved to Franklin Park, NJ to be near our daughter and her family in Kendall Park. My primary retirement occupation since then has been caring for two granddaughters, Beatrice, age 10, and Emily, age 6, before and after school. In addition, I recently concluded a term as pulpit supply at Grace Presbyterian Church in Kendall Park, where I was privileged to work with Rev. J. Warner. **NEED HELP?** Through generous donations by members and friends of Witherspoon, **THE DEACON BOARD** has resources available to provide monetary relief for members of our congregation who need **FINANCIAL SUPPORT** due to an extended illness, loss of a job, or other circumstances that are creating a difficult financial situation. We encourage you to let your deacon, the pastor, or an elder know if you, or a family member, needs financial assistance.



OUTREACH AND MISSION deeply misses its most active member, our beloved **Rebecca Campbell**. In her memory we invite members of the congregation to join us in supporting a project which Rebecca planned last summer. She was very moved by the needs of women and children in Congo who suffer extreme malnutrition and have no health care. Rebecca proposed that we collect items such as multivitamins or calcium or band-aids, etc., to help the women and children in Kinshasa who are served by our partner *Woman, Cradle of Abundance*. This nonprofit is planning a mission trip in July and will be taking these gifts in person on behalf of Witherspoon.

Bottles of calcium or multivitamins or boxes of band-aids or small monetary donations will be welcome. Thank you for helping us celebrate Rebecca's generous spirit! During the month of May, donations may be placed in the marked **basket in the narthex**. Checks may be made to *Woman, Cradle of Abundance* (or to WSPC with *Woman, Cradle of Abundance* in the subject line). Or mail check to: 115 Maine Ave., Cherry Hill, NJ 08002.



WSPC DIRECTOR OF MUSIC FUMI NAKAMAE KORODAN

Fumi Nakamae Korodan is a born-again Christian, mom of four, option trader, gospel pianist, and music teacher from Japan. She grew up in Wakayama, a suburban prefecture right outside of Osaka. Inspired by her father who was an electrical engineer and jazz bassist, she started studying music with the Yamaha School of Music at the age of five and developed a passion for piano. Fumi studied classical piano under the guidance of Ms. Akiko Minakata and was inspired by her to become a Yamaha music teacher when she grew up. As her skills were nurtured by her sensei, she advanced rapidly and became Yamaha Grade 5 certified by the time she was a senior in high school.

Fumi left Japan to pursue her education abroad and studied in England, where she learned English, and then in France, where she studied French. When she was a little girl, she dreamed of living on a tropical island with coconut trees one day. With that dream, she headed to the Hawaiian Islands. Excited to be in the land of dream and opportunity, Fumi attended the University of Hawai'i at Hilo to pursue her bachelor's degree. She studied jazz music since she had studied classical music her whole life. However, as she was fulfilling general education requirements, Fumi developed a passion for finance and her dream shifted from music teacher to option trader. She continued to study music, but ultimately declared her major in finance. After receiving her BBA in finance, she went on to pursue an MBA in economics at Hawai'i Pacific University while working as a

This Week at Witherspoon

Today	Worship - Donald Pitches preaching Celebration of the Lord's Supper Ordination/Installation of New Officers	10:00 AM
	Chancel Choir Meeting (Sanctuary)	11:30 AM
Monday		
Tuesday	Verse Speaking Choir (Sanctuary)	6:30 PM
Wednesday	Sunday Worship Planning Group (via Zoom)	5:45 PM
Thursday	Men's Chorus Rehearsal (Sanctuary)	TBD
Friday		
Saturday	Saturday Morning Bible Study (via Zoom)	10:00 AM
Next Sunday	Worship - Lissette González Sosa preaching	10:00 AM

Human Trafficking: Modern Slavery in New Jersey and the World

a conversation with

Heather Hadley,

Supervising Assistant Prosecutor Mercer County Prosecutor's Human Trafficking Unit

Spring Gathering Saturday, May 6 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. United Presbyterian Church Yardville

12 Yardville Hamilton Sq. Rd., Trenton, NJ All are invited

Coffee at 9 a.m. followed by Worship, Business Meeting and Program Light lunch to follow Suggested donation \$8 per person

Personal hygiene items accepted for Arm in Arm (soap, toothpaste, shampoo, feminine hygiene products)

Church is at the corner of Yardville-Hamilton Sq. Rd. and S. Broad St. Parking & entrance at rear of church off Waln Ave – additional parking available at Buklad-Merlino Funeral Home next to the church. **RSVP by April 30** to Gloria Hanewald at (609) 528-0511 or <u>glohanny@optimum.net</u>

