

# January 22nd, 2023

*Our PCAS Vision: "To be a Light by Living, Loving, Learning,  
and Sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ."*

## *Order of Worship*

*(\*Please rise in body and/or spirit )*

### **Welcome and Announcements**

**Prelude**                      The Old Rugged Cross                      setting by Books

### **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

#### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: As we gather for worship, we recognize that we have each made a choice today to act in faith.

**People: We recognize there are other choices, and some of us had to wrestle with our schedules, our desires, and other people in our lives to get ourselves to worship.**

Leader: Know that you have followed the wisdom of God today. God knows what efforts you have made to get out of bed when the body doesn't want to move, to get connected when you have to fight with technology, to be present when you're doubting if God will show up to meet you.

**People: We are where we are supposed to be. Let us welcome the ministry of God who will meet us here, and take the lead from here.**

#### **\*Hymn #450**                      Be Thou My Vision

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true Word;  
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord;  
thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;  
raise thou me heavenward, O Power of my power.

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise;  
thou mine inheritance, now and always;  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won  
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

### **Call to Confession**

Leader: Knowing that we have gotten in trouble trying to guide ourselves through this life, and that we have pushed aside God's wisdom, let us make the wise decision now to seek God's help. Let us pray:

### **Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**Almighty God, we believe that your ways are higher than our ways, but as much as we believe it, we still have moments where we follow the whims of our own desires, and the winds of the trends around us.**

**When you teach patience, humility, and concern for how our choices impact others, we still make rash decisions, seeking immediate gratification, and we still boast in our own resources. We choose to exploit the hard labor of others to increase our convenience and wealth.**

**We have learned these ways, O Lord, from the wisdom of this world. But we pray today to learn instead your way. Amen.**

### **Kyrie Eleison**

**Kyrie, kyrie eleison, (Lord, have mercy)**

**Kyrie, kyrie eleison.**

**Christe, Christe eleison, (Christ, have mercy)**

**Christe, Christe eleison.**

**Kyrie, kyrie eleison,**

**Kyrie, kyrie eleison, eleison.**

### **Moment for Silent Reflection**

#### **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: All praise and thanksgiving be to the Lord our God, who in wisdom forgives our folly, and invests in us for eternal gain.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

## **Prayer of Illumination**

**First Scripture Lesson**            Matthew 4:12-23

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God!**

## **Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the Church & The Lord's Prayer**

### **\*Passing of the Peace**

**\*Hymn #174**      Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom,  
she who danced, when earth was new.  
Follow closely what she teaches,  
for her words are right and true.  
Wisdom clears the path to justice,  
showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom,  
crying in the market-place.  
Hear the Word made flesh among us,  
full of glory, truth and grace.  
When the word takes root and ripens,  
peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us;  
nurture all who seek rebirth.  
Spirit-guide and close companion,  
bring to light our sacred worth.  
Free us to become your people,  
holy friends of God and earth.

**Second Scripture Lesson**      1 Corinthians 1:26-31

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks Be to God**

**Sermon**      **"Proudly a Fool"**

## **Offering**

**Offertory**      Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross            setting by Mark Hayes

## **Doxology**

## **\*Prayer of Dedication**

### **\*Hymn #246** Christ is Alive! (verses 1,2,3, and 5)

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound  
to distant years in Palestine,  
but saving, healing, here and now,  
and touching every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war,  
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
and lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

## **\*Benediction**

**Postlude** Lord of the Dance setting by Sydney Carter

### **Worship Leaders**

Pastor:	Rev. Katja Gruening
Liturgist:	Kirsten Schanck
Organist:	Marcello Velame
Ushers:	Peter Bruguere Bill Schanck
Zoom Hosts:	John Palframan Jim Wright
Coffee Hour:	Church & Society

# **Annual Meeting of the Congregation**

## **Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>**

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held following worship on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, for the purpose of receiving the annual reports, presenting the 2023 Budget, electing church officers, and approving the pastor's terms of call.

Members present on Zoom will be able to participate in the discussion and vote via Zoom.

Copies of the Annual Reports are available on the Harvest Table in the foyer of Fellowship Hall.

### **Zoom Bible Study**



Bible Study has resumed on Zoom on Tuesdays at 9am. We have lively and thoughtful discussion led by Pastor Katja, and you are welcome to join in anytime. Let the church office know if you would like to be included on the email list for Bible Study to receive the Zoom link and study guides.

We are using studies from "The Wired Word". These studies take something in the news from the past week, link it to scripture, and give us discussion questions that invite us to explore contemporary events through the lens of scripture. By "news" - it's pretty far ranging covering art, science, public figures, natural disasters, psychology, religion in the news, education...a little bit of everything.

## Schedule Week of January 23rd

23	JAN, MON	● 4:30 – 5:30pm	Wisdom Tree Yoga (studio)
24	JAN, TUE	● 9 – 10:30am	Zoom Bible Study
		● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga (studio)
		● 11am – 12pm	Overeaters Anonymous (TR)
25	JAN, WED	● 9:30 – 11am	Mission Belles (TR)
		● 7 – 9pm	Boy Scouts (FH)
26	JAN, THU	● 9:30 – 10:30am	Wisdom Tree Yoga (studio)
		● 4:45 – 5:45pm	Yoga Small Group (FH)
		● 6 – 7pm	Bells ( Social Room)
28	JAN, SAT	● 9am – 7pm	Boy Scouts Pinewood Derby (FH)
		● 7:30 – 9pm	AA (TR and FH)
29	JAN, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Choir Practice (Sanctuary)
		● 10 – 11am	Sunday Worship (Sanctuary)
		● 11am – 12pm	Coffee Hour (Social Room)
		● 11:15am – 12:15pm	Congregational Meeting (Sanctuary)
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	AA (TR)
		● 5 – 6pm	AA (TR)

# Give from the heart

February is American Heart Month.

Chase depended  
on blood during  
heart surgery and  
in recovery.

**DONATIONS  
SAVE LIVES**



## **BLOOD DRIVE**

**Thurs. Feb. 2 12:30-6:30**

**Co-sponsors**

**IMA Urgent Care**

**Presbyterian Church at Shrewsbury**

**Site is church at 352 Sycamore Ave., Shrewsbury**

Appointments suggested. For an appointment call 800-933-2566  
or visit [nybc.org/drive](https://nybc.org/drive) or scan the QR code. Sponsor code is 71764



Donors 76 and over need a doctor's note unless one is already on file.  
16 year olds need signed NYBC parental consent form.

Appointments are preferred however walk-ins will be welcomed if space permits. Please remember to eat, drink, and bring your ID with your name and photo. Mask requirements may change depending on CDC guidelines. Visit [nybc.org/coronavirus](https://nybc.org/coronavirus) for complete COVID-19 safety protocols.

 **New Jersey  
Blood Services**

800.933.BLOOD • [nybc.org](https://nybc.org)



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