



Church of the Hills
Presbyterian Church (USA)

“What, or Whom, Do You Trust”

1 Samuel 8

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Reverend Richard K. (Rich) Stewart

June 6, 2021

We are a vibrant family of faith rooted in God's Word, gathering together to worship and equipped to share the love of Christ in the world.

Welcome

Linda LaGrange

Music Meditation

Hanna Wo

****Call to Worship**

Linda LaGrange

Leader: Listen. Do you hear it?

People: The love of Christ is poured out for us.

Leader: Listen. Do you hear it?

People: The cloud of the faithful is singing God's praise.

Leader: Listen. Do you hear it?

People: The Spirit of God is calling us to worship.

****Opening Hymn**

“Come Thou Almighty King ”

Blue Hymnal 139 (v. 1,3)

Come, Thou Almighty King, help us Thy name to sing,
help us to praise: Father, all glorious, O'er all victorious,
come, and reign over us, Ancient of Days.

Come, Holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
in this glad hour: Thou who almighty art, now rule in every heart,
and ne'er from us depart, Spirit of power.

** Please stand if you are able

Invitation to Confession

Linda LaGrange

Leader: Please approach the throne of grace with me.

People: We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, we confess our sins in faith.

Returning to the Lord through Confession

Linda LaGrange

Leader: You have called us blessed, O God, and washed us in the waters of grace.

People: You have called us a family, O God, and bound us by the presence of your Spirit.

Leader: Forgive us, O Holy One, when we try to forget that we belong to you:

People: when we bind ourselves to the illusion of independence, the myth of supremacy or the fear of what might happen if we placed our trust in something beyond ourselves.

Leader: Forgive us, O Holy One, and by your forgiveness, free us from all that keeps us bound.

All: We surrender to you the sins that separate us from you and one another during this time of silence (Silence).

Leader: In the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness and the Peace of Christ

Linda LaGrange

Leader: We are forgiven!

People: Alleluia, Amen.

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.

People: And, also with you.

Leader: Share the peace of Christ with one another.

****Response to Forgiveness**

“Spirit of the Living God”

Blue Hymnal 322 (v.1)

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Prayer for Illumination

Linda LaGrange

Leader: Please join me in the Prayer for Illumination.

All: Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 8

Reverend Richard K. Stewart

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

Linda LaGrange

** Please stand if you are able

Ministry of Music

“Kuimba Asante”

**By Jean Perry
Sung by the Chancel Choir**

O lift your voices (O lift your voice) in jubilant song (in joyful song)
To praise the Spirit (the Spirit) who makes us one. (who makes us one)
Sing glory (Kuimba utukufu,) sing praises (kuimba sifa)
Sing glory (kuimba utukufu,O sing thanks to God (kuimba asante.)
Now all God’s children, (All children,) in every land (in every land,)
Lift your song in thanksgiving (thanksgiving) and clap your hands. (and clap your hands)
Sing glory, (kuimba utukufu,) sing praise, (kuimba sifa,)
sing glory, (kuimba utukufu,) sing thanks to God. (kuimba asante.)

In every language sing thanks to God, creator of us all;
(Kuimba asante, kuimba sifa.)
God’s grace and goodness we celebrate with voices great and small.
(kuimba asante, kuimba sifa).

Arigato, we thank You, asante, we thank you,
Gracias, we thank You, spaciba, we thank You.
Sing glory, (Kuimba utukufu,) sing praise (kuimba sifa,)
Sing glory, (Kuimba utukufu,) sing thanks to God. (kuimba asante.)

O lift your voices (O lift your voice) in jubilant song, (in joyful song.)
To praise the Spirit (the Spirit) who makes us one. (who makes us one.)
Sing glory, (Kuimba utukufu,) sing praise, (kuimba sifa,)
Sing glory (kuimba utukufu,) sing thanks to God (kuimba asante.)
Kuimba asante. Sing thanks to God.
Sing thanks, sing thanks to God.

Sermon

“What, or Whom, Do You Trust”

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**** Response to Sermon** “Let Us Break Bread Together” Blue Hymnal 513 (v. 1,2)

Let us break bread together on our knees; (on our knees.)
Let us break bread together on our knees. (On our knees.)

(Refrain)

**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.)

(Refrain)

Invitation to the Offering and Prayer of Dedication

Reverend Stewart

Response to Prayer of Dedication “To God Be the Glory”

Blue Hymnal 485

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!

**Please stand if you are able

The Eucharist

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer

Reverend Stewart

All: 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.

Words of Institution

Communion Music

Distribution of the Elements

You are invited to come forward. Please take the individual cups and return to your seats. You are welcome to take the elements anytime while in your seat. After the service, we ask that you please take your cups and throw them away in the trash can located in the Narthex.

For Reflection and Meditation:

The body of Christ, given for you. Amen.

The blood of Christ, shed for you. Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Reverend Stewart

All: Loving God, you graciously feed us, who have received these holy mysteries, with the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. May we who have received this sacrament, be strengthened in your service; we who have sung your praises tell of your glory and truth; we who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in your kingdom. For you have made us your own people by the death and resurrection of your Son our Lord and by the life-giving power of your Spirit. Amen.

****Closing Hymn**

“God of Grace and God of Glory” Blue Hymnal 420 (v. 1,2, 5)

God of grace and God of glory, On Thy people pour Thy power;
crown Thine ancient church’s story;
bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
for the living of these days, for the living of these days.

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of Thy salvation
be our glory evermore. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving Thee whom we adore, serving Thee whom we adore.

****Charge and Blessing**

Reverend. Stewart

Leader: And the people of God say
People: **Alleluia. Amen.**

**Please stand if you are able

Biography of Today's Guest Minister, Rich Stewart

A Kansas farm product, graduate of Sterling (KS) College, he forsook an EUB (“methodist-style”) tradition to enter the PCUSA, distressing his mother, who did not consider it predestination, but rather an act of feckless free will. Was she right?

He fled Princeton Seminary with a Masters of Divinity in 1965 before grades could be rechecked, and for most of the sixty years thereafter, has enjoyed Colorado; pastoring full- or part-time, on-staff or solo, well or badly, in parishes of all sizes, in settings urban or rural.

For 24 years, the heart of his ministry (and the ministry of his heart) was as part-time rehab chaplain at Denver's renowned Craig Hospital, cheering on life's “comeback kids” and serving with pleasure on various Denver Presbytery committees.

He retired in June '05, but for years leavened it with part-time church work, such as pulpit supply, presbytery work and visitation for Green Mountain Presbyterian Church in Lakewood. He also markets a book of highlights from his years at Craig.

He's been married over 50 years to no-nonsense, but long-suffering Jo, proud of two grown children, both married—and three half-grown grandchildren: Eva, Braden, and Eli, too far away in Santa Barbara.

So as understated Kansans might say: “it coulda gone worse. . .” God is truly good.

A special thank you to Christi Todd, Neil Snyder, Jerry Bucholz and Tate Allbritton for helping with the tech.

*Hymnals are indicated for those that may have them at home.

Blue - “The Presbyterian Hymnal”

Red - “Songs for Praise and Worship”

Purple - “Glory to God”

Yellow - “Hymns for the Family of God”

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