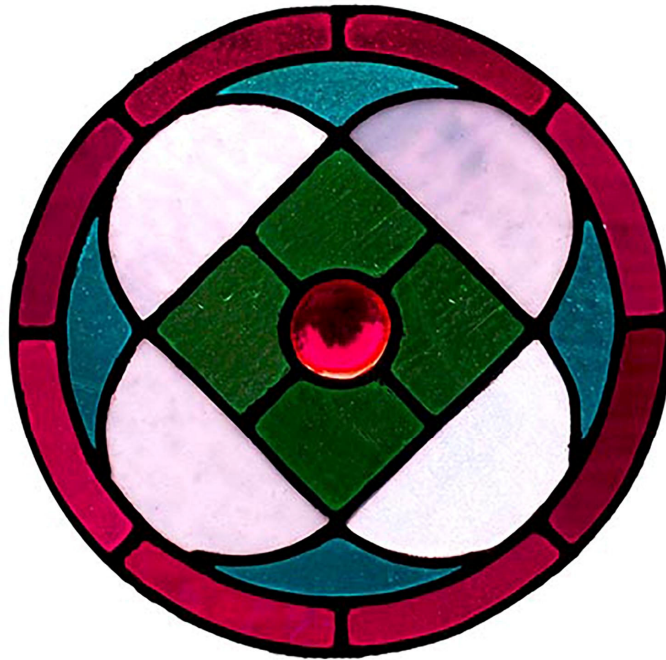


ST. ELMO PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Presbyterian Church in America

Our purpose is to know, live out of, and proclaim
the wonder of God's grace in Jesus.



July 7, 2024

Rev. Daniel Wells, Pastor

4400 St. Elmo Avenue • Chattanooga, TN • 37409
423-821-1424

<http://www.stelmopres.org>

This Week at
St. Elmo Presbyterian Church and Community
July 7, 2024
and Live streaming on YouTube

Today

10:30am Worship Service (no Little Lambs today)

Monday July 8

6:30pm Softball game 1 and Game 2 at 7:30pm — Contact Ethan Greene

Wednesday July 10

7:00pm Wednesday Night Prayer Group meets — Contact Carol or Jim Wildeman

Thursday July 11

7:30pm Session Meeting

Worship Service Nursery

July 7 Gwen Macallister, Bennett and Ashe Sunder

July 14 Cindy Sindler and Beth Ann Green

Nursery volunteer sign up for worship: <https://tinyurl.com/yp8trcc>

Nursery Director: Lydia Mayberry

For July: Kedric Webster

Prayers for UBS

July 7

Pray for Group Guides — gentleness, energy, mentoring spirit

Upcoming

Sunday, July 14 Vacation Bible School begins! July 14-18, 5:30pm-8:00pm

Sunday, July 21 Baby Shower for Eddie and Micaela Sunder after worship at Websters' house

Saturday, Aug. 17 Men's Breakfast

Tuesday, Aug 27 Mercy Ministry Group meets

“We must make a study of our God: what he loves, what he hates, how he speaks and acts. We cannot imitate a God whose features and habits we have never learned. We must make a study of him if we want to become like him. We must seek his face.” - Dorothy Sayers

Prelude

Announcements

Musical Preparation

JESUS WELCOMES US

Greeting

Call to Worship

In your majesty ride out victoriously for the cause of truth and meekness and righteousness; let your right hand teach you awesome deeds.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is the scepter of your righteousness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.

Hear, O daughter, and consider, and incline your ear: forget your people and your father's house, and the king will desire your beauty. (Psalm 45)

Invocation

Hymn of Praise: “Holy, Holy, Holy” (#100)

JESUS HEARS OUR LAMENT

Prayer of Lament

When we come O Christ to thee, when we bow adoring knee,

Hear our prayer, hear our cry!

By thy victory and strife, by the merits of your life,

Hear our prayer, hear our cry!

Oh by all the pains and woe, suffered once for man below.

Hear our prayer, hear our cry!

By the days of sore distress, in the savage wilderness,

Hear our prayer, hear our cry!

By the sacred griefs that wept, O'er the grave where Laz'rus slept,

Hear our prayer, hear our cry!

By the gloom that veiled the skies, Over dreadful sacrifice.

Hear our prayer, hear our cry.

O from earth to heaven restored, Mighty re-ascended Lord!

Listen to our cry - hear our sacred litany! (Silence)

Hymn of Lament: “The Lord's My Shepherd” (Rejoice! #94)

Assurance of Comfort

“On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine, rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined. And he will swallow up on this mountain the covering that is cast over all peoples, the veil that is spread over all nations. He will swallow up death forever; and the LORD God will wipe away tears from all faces.”

- Isaiah 25:6-8

Song of Comfort: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” (#32)

JESUS RECEIVES OUR GENEROSITY

Offering of Gifts and Thanksgivings

Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise Him, all creatures, here below!
Praise Him, above, Ye heavenly Host! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen!*

Covenant Children's Lesson

JESUS INTERCEDES FOR US

Intercessory Prayer & 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.*

JESUS SPEAKS HIS LOVE TO US

Prayer of Illumination

Reading of the Word: Romans 14:1-15:13

Preaching of the Word: "A Culture of Grace: Romans 12-16 // Part 6 - Diets, Days, and Disunity" (Rev. Daniel Wells)

JESUS HEARS OUR PLEDGE OF FAITH

Confession of Faith

*I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; on the third day He rose again
from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty, from thence He shall
come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of
the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. (Apostles Creed, 2nd Cent)*

JESUS SEALS HIS LOVE TO US

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

Sursum Corda

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is fitting and right to do so.

People of God, as you come to the table, what do you proclaim?

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come back again.

The Bread ("There is a Fountain" #253, 1st & 2nd Stanzas)

The Cup ("There is a Fountain", 3rd & 4th Stanzas)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

JESUS SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

Hymn of Departure: "There is a Fountain" (5th Stanza)

Benediction



Please pray for these individuals and groups this week:

- ✂
- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> John David Tinholt | <input type="checkbox"/> Our U.S. Governors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Luke Tinholt | <input type="checkbox"/> The Persecuted Church in ERITREA (4) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rob, Elaine, and Kate Tinholt | <input type="checkbox"/> Pray for our faithful witness to our neighbors |
| <input type="checkbox"/> John and Kathy Tucker | <input type="checkbox"/> Ukraine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Christian Education Ministry Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Israel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dan and Mako Gilchrist: ELI | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Promise | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RUF-UTC: Davis Mooney | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> VBS | |

Daniel and Mako Gilchrist

ELI: Coordinator for partnerships in Tharaka-Nithi, Kenya; and Ghana;

Director of Global Partnership Development and Faculty Recruiting — Social Media Coordinator

Praise

- for a successful trip to Kenya: safe (though not uneventful) travel for a team of 11 (including Mike Steele and Csenge Futo from St. Elmo PCA and Scott and Tallis Finch from Chattanooga Valley PCA) that traveled to and from Kenya; we taught a Bible Study Methods workshop in week one; we observed and coached 6 teams of 3 "Timothys" (those who have been trained who are now teaching) as they launched 6 new training networks
- for the expanding and maturing partnership under the leadership and vision of Bishop Douglas Gitonga
- for four meetings with prospective ELI partners in both Kenya and Tanzania; for the many pending conversations with other prospective partners and the growing ELI faculty
- for safety and refreshment of Mako and the kids who traveled to Japan to visit family

Prayer for

1. provision of necessary resources and spiritual protection as the new training networks launch their ministry (each training network seems to experience significant spiritual opposition in their first 18months of ministry);
2. wisdom and necessary resources of personnel and finances as we put plans in place to launch a leadership training initiative among high school students in Tharaka-Nithi County of Kenya in three pilot schools beginning in January; please especially be in prayer for the one-year intern who is prayerfully considering helping us "on the ground" to launch this initiative;
3. wisdom and provision of necessary personnel and funding as we explore the possibility of launching a training program for educators in Tharaka-Nithi county;
4. wisdom and provision of personnel to address ELI's organizational needs as it continues to grow rapidly; for ELI faculty members with resources and availability to serve our prospective partners as "Partnership Coordinators;"
5. our son, Naoki, who is making final arrangements and raising funds to move to Sintra, Portugal in August to teach at a Christian high school that seeks to fill a need for education among middle-eastern and southeast Asian immigrants in Portugal;
6. our son, Tomoya, who will continue his studies and our daughter, Manami, who will begin her studies at Covenant College in the Fall;
7. Mako as she anticipates starting a new job at Covenant College in August.

VBS Mission Project

Terangavillage for Girls — <https://www.terangavillage.org/home/#our-vision>

Ngaparou Beach Camp — <https://tinyurl.com/mtrtbzjz>

Pray for the Persecuted Church in ERITREA (4)

THREE PASTORS ENDURE 20 YEARS IN CUSTODY; ANOTHER PASTOR DIES IN PRISON

Source: Barnabasaid.org, June 27, 2024

Your prayers are needed for Christians in Eritrea who have been imprisoned for their faith in Jesus. ***Please especially pray for three pastors who have now been in prison for 20 years.*** None of the three have ever been charged or faced trial.

Pastors Haile Nayzgi and Dr. Kiflu Gebremeskel were arrested on May 23, 2004. Pastor Meron Gebreselasie was arrested a month later. These pastors are among more than 500 Christians in Eritrea who endure long-term imprisonment in harsh conditions, often suffering violence and abuse. Some of these Christians never get to leave prison after their arrest. For example, a pastor named Ghirmay Araya died recently, after being imprisoned for almost three years. Ghirmay was arrested alongside another pastor named Samuel Okbamichael in July, 2021. *Both were in their mid-70s at the time of arrest.*

In Eritrea, the Marxist government legally permits only three Christian denominations: Eritrean Orthodox, Roman Catholic and Lutheran. Christians from prohibited denominations are subject to arrest and imprisonment, often without charge or trial. *Even the legally permitted denominations are sometimes subject to intimidation and harassment.*

1. Pray that Christians who are unjustly imprisoned in Eritrea will be released or, if it is the Lord's will that they remain in prison, that He will comfort and sustain them (Psalm 69:33).
2. Please also remember in your prayers the families of those in prison, that God will strengthen their faith and give them peace. 🙏🙏



VBS REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

<http://c.planetReg.com/SEPC2024VBS>
(or <https://tinyurl.com/yeernnex>)

July 14-18 5:30pm-8:00pm

Use the internet link or the QR code to register your children:
3 years old - completed 5th grade

FINDING THE TREASURE OF
GOD'S AMAZING GRACE



A Culture of Grace:

Romans 12-16

“Diets, Days, and Disunity” (**Romans 14:1-15:13**)

Romans 14:1–15:13 NIV 1984

¹Accept him whose faith is weak, without passing judgment on disputable matters. ²One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. ³The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him. ⁴Who are you to judge someone else's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. And he will stand, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵One man considers one day more sacred than another; another man considers every day alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶He who regards one day as special, does so to the Lord. He who eats meat, eats to the Lord, for he gives thanks to God; and he who abstains, does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷For none of us lives to himself alone and none of us dies to himself alone. ⁸If we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. ⁹For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. ¹⁰You, then, why do you judge your brother? Or why do you look down on your brother? For we will all stand before God's judgment seat. ¹¹It is written: "As surely as I live," says the Lord, "every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God." ¹²So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God. ¹³Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another. Instead, make up your mind not to put any stumbling block or obstacle in your brother's way. ¹⁴As one who is in the Lord Jesus, I am fully convinced that no food is unclean in itself. But if anyone regards something as unclean, then for him it is unclean. ¹⁵If your brother is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died. ¹⁶Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil. ¹⁷For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking, but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit, ¹⁸because anyone who serves Christ in this way is pleasing to God and approved by men. ¹⁹Let

us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification. ²⁰Do not destroy the work of God for the sake of food. All food is clean, but it is wrong for a man to eat anything that causes someone else to stumble. ²¹It is better not to eat meat or drink wine or to do anything else that will cause your brother to fall. ²²So whatever you believe about these things keep between yourself and God. Blessed is the man who does not condemn himself by what he approves. ²³But the man who has doubts is condemned if he eats, because his eating is not from faith; and everything that does not come from faith is sin. **15** ¹We who are strong ought to bear with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves. ²Each of us should please his neighbor for his good, to build him up. ³For even Christ did not please himself but, as it is written: "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." ⁴For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. ⁵May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, ⁶so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. ⁸For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the Jews on behalf of God's truth, to confirm the promises made to the patriarchs ⁹so that the Gentiles may glorify God for his mercy, as it is written: I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will) "Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing hymns to your name." ¹⁰Again, it says, "Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people." ¹¹And again, "Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and sing praises to him, all you peoples." ¹²And again, Isaiah says, "The Root of Jesse will spring up, one who will arise to rule over the nations; the Gentiles will hope in him." ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I. Being Right While Also Being Wrong

II. Church Unity & Jesus' Mission

1. What are some examples in your life where you are the weaker brother who has preferences and viewpoints about church life which aren't taught in Scripture? And what are examples where you are the stronger brother who has a hard time keeping unity with those who have such preferences and viewpoints?

2. Reformed and Presbyterian churches are well known for being schismatic. So, what do we need to do at SEPC to keep our unity in Christ in front of us for the sake of mission?

Sermon Notes for Kids

Today is _____

Who is the preacher today? _____

What is the scripture for today?

My favorite songs today:

May the _____ of hope
_____ you with all
_____ and peace as you
trust in _____, so that
you may _____
with _____ by the
_____ of the
_____ Spirit.

Listen for these words in
the sermon and circle
them when you hear
them.

UNITY

DAYS

DIETS

WELCOME

RIGHT

WRONG

Paul said it is important for Christians to have a spirit of unity. Why?

Find the reason Paul gives by following the letters in the heart, crossing out every C and P. Write the message on the lines.



START

S G O T P H A T P W I T H O C N E P H E A R C T A N D P M O C U T C H P Y O P U C M A Y G L P O R I C E P Y G C O P D C



Welcome to St. Elmo Presbyterian Church pca

Sunday School for Children and Adults

Begins at 9:15am. Fellowship time in the Fellowship Hall. Children downstairs in the SS hallway at 9:30am. Adults meet in the Adult SS room downstairs. Sunday School for kindergarten children through youth group age meet downstairs in the SS wing. Sunday School breaks for the summer months.

Little Lambs

Children from 3 through 4 years old attend their own worship service downstairs after the offering is taken. Contact: Jessica Novikoff

Nursery Available

Nursery is available during Sunday School and worship for babies and for toddlers until they are old enough for Little Lambs. If you can help us in our nursery, please contact: Lydia Mayberry. Also if you have any questions, please contact Lydia Mayberry.

Sign up to volunteer in the nursery at: stelmopres.org. Click on "Connect-Grow-Serve" then "Nursery..." then scroll down to Sign up for Sunday Nursery..."

You can also go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yp8trcc>

Past Sermons and Church Calendar

Sermons online: <https://soundcloud.com/SEPC4400/sets>

Calendar online: www.stelmopres.org/events



Find us on Facebook:
St. Elmo Presbyterian
Church - pca

[https://www.facebook.com/
StElmoPresPCA](https://www.facebook.com/StElmoPresPCA)

High School and Middle School Youth Group

Youth Group meets Sunday nights from 6:00pm-8:00pm except for the first Sunday of each month.

Summer Swap: Youth Group will "swap" over the summer, meeting from 6:00pm - 8:00pm, ONLY on the first Sunday of the month (June 2nd, July 7, August 4).

Christian Education Staff/Volunteers Contact Information

- Nursery Director: Lydia Mayberry (see p.6)
- Little Lambs: Jessica Novikoff
- Director of Youth and Children's Ministry:
Brad Roberts: brad.k.roberts@gmail.com,
704-776-0106



Online donations/offerings:

You can use this QR code or you may go to -

<https://tinyurl.com/mr7h9e89>



To join the St. Elmo Presbyterian Church Email List:

1. Go to: <http://lists.st-elmo.org/mailman/listinfo/sepc>
2. Enter your email address in the gray box
3. Enter your name in the gray box
4. Password is optional
5. Click "Subscribe" and you will be added to the list. You will receive an email with directions for sending an email to the list and also unsubscribing. If you have difficulty signing on, please email Jay Green at jay.green@covenant.edu.

Parking

*Please do not park in front of driveways, or IN driveways, or in front of garages.
Please try to park on the side streets and not on St. Elmo Avenue (painted bike lanes).*

Also, park to the right of the road (in the direction you are going) so that you are not ticketed by the police.

Permission to print music and lyrics: CCLI#418158