

Church in the Forest

at Erdman Chapel, Stevenson School • 3152 Forest Lake Road,
Pebble Beach • P. O. Box 1027, Pebble Beach, CA 93953
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Monday morning, November 13, 2017

Dear Friends,

As we near Thanksgiving, the church year draws to a close. We say goodbye to Pentecost and welcome the New Year of Advent.

It's been a painful year: mass shootings, horrific storms, national disunity, threats of nuclear war. And in our church family we've suffered life-changing illness, loss and sorrow.

With all this pain and fear, how do we give thanks?

The first Thanksgiving was also celebrated amidst pain and fear. The Mayflower sojourners lost almost half of their people within months of landing in Massachusetts. Were it not for the agricultural skills of two Native Americans, who, miraculously, knew English, the survivors would have perished or abandoned the mission.

Our scripture texts for this Sunday speak also about giving thanks in times of pain and fear. When we are pressed hard, desperate and hurting, then especially we need and receive the power of God. As First Peter, Sunday's New Testament Lesson, says: "In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory...."

This Sunday is Stewardship Sunday, when we begin to receive your pledge cards for financial partnership in 2018. Please complete your card prayerfully! Use your prayers to prepare for Thanksgiving, reflecting on how God has been alive in our church, sustaining you and others in your own Mayflower journey.

See you Sunday!



The Rev. Joanne Swenson, Th.D.

Small Groups are gatherings where CitF members and new friends can explore questions of faith and deepen fellowship. These groups are open to visitors who wish to find out more and experience a meeting.

- The *Small Group Bible Study* meets every Sunday at **8:30 AM** in the Multi-purpose Room. This study will link with our Fall sermon series, using Eugene Peterson's *Psalms: Prayer of the Heart*. Purchase your book from **Ken** (KenFeske@comcast.net), or at your bookseller.
- The *Small Group Study* led by the **Rev. Ken Feske** will meet on **Tuesday, November 21, 10:15-11:30 am**. Location and topic to be announced.
- Are you interested in helping Pastor Joanne launch "*Soul Sisters Two*"? Our first *Soul Sisters* is fabulous but full. An organizing meeting for a new group was just held. Please ask Pastor Joanne for more information.
- The *Men's Small Group*, led by **Bob Axley** and **John Thorbeck**, will meet **Thursday, November 16, 10-11:30 AM**, in the Multipurpose Room.
- A *Small Group* for those who are grieving, led by the **Rev. Dr. Bill Rolland**, our minister emeritus and an expert in grief counseling, is temporarily on break, while **Dr. Rolland** recovers from illness.

In this season of gratitude, please support the **Salvation Army** by ringing the bell at the Pebble Beach Post Office **beginning the day after Thanksgiving until December 23**. Shifts are from **10 AM-noon or noon-2 PM**. Judy Stayduhar will be taking sign-ups on Sundays during the coffee hour or you may call her at **905-2902** to schedule a time.

Calendar

Sunday November 19, 2017 — 24th Sunday after Pentecost
Thanksgiving/Stewardship Sunday

8:30 AM Bible Study in the Multipurpose Room led by the Rev. Ken Feske
Topic: Psalm 150

9:15 AM Chapel Concertino **9:30 AM Morning Prayer**

Passages Deuteronomy 8: 11-18 ; Psalm 150; 1 Peter 1: 3-9

Lector Dennis Riley **Crucifer** Judy Fletcher

Ushers ??

Cookies Diane Emerson

Flowers Leslie & Bob Mulford,

Altar Care Martha Jordan and Sandy Rice

Sermon The Rev. Joanne M. Swenson, Th.D.

Title "Real Spirituality ~ A Sermon Series on Psalms"
This Sunday: "Real Praise"

Music Box

NOVEMBER 19, 2017

**Robert Armstead, bass-baritone
Melinda Coffey Armstead, piano & organ**

CHAPEL CONCERTINO FOR THANKSGIVING

- Les Feuilles Mortes.....Jacques Prevert (1900-1977)
/Joseph Kosma (1905-1969)
English lyrics by Johnny Mercer (1909-1976)
- September Song Maxwell Anderson (1888-1959)
/Kurt Weill (1900-1950)
- Bless This House..... Helen Taylor/May Brahe (1884-1957)
- Instead of Sheep..... Irving Berlin (1888-1989)
- Welcome Home..... Harold Rome (1908-1993)

- Pilgrim’s Song..... A. Tolstoi/P. Tschaikovsky (1840-1893)

- Over the River and Through the Woods traditional
Fugue in C..... Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

Thanks In Advance

Lord, thank You for the blessings we enjoy,
And for the sunny days that come our way.
I ask You for some help: not to annoy
My loved ones on that final, poignant day,
On life support, attended to by clerks.
Unplug me please, 'cause I don't want to stay.
Then plug me in again; sometimes that works.

—RLA



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