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Description automatically generatedA picture containing text, clipart, room, gambling house

Description automatically generated** **Emporia Presbyterian Church**

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

November 19, 2023

**Emporia Presbyterian Church extends an enthusiastic welcome** to all who join with us in worship and fellowship. We affirm that there can be no exclusion within the body of Christ. If you need any assistance or have a prayer request, please email the pastor at

[pastorphyl.epc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorphyl.epc@gmail.com).

***Our Faith Statement***

*Through the love and inspiration of Jesus Christ and each other, we reach out beyond ourselves to support others, continue to grow in faith, praise God, and celebrate His gifts.*

\* - You are invited to stand as you are comfortable **Bold** – Please read aloud

WELCOME

A NOTE ON GATHERING FOR WORSHIP:

A reminder that whether we worship in or away from physical sanctuary: wherever we are, we are in sacred space when we set this time apart to be intentional, be in God’s presence, and let our spirits connect with each other by the power of the Holy Spirit in Jesus’ name.

REFLECTION

*God does not give us everything we want, but God does fulfill his promises,*

*leading us along the best and straightest paths to himself.*

*~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer*



\*CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive) *adapted from Psalm 126 / The Message*

The LORD has done great things for us.

**We gather now to rejoice.**

Let those with heavy hearts come home with laughing; **at home with God, we find armloads of blessings.**

Friends, let our spirits laugh and hearts sing with thanksgiving.

**Together, in gratitude, we worship the One who provides for us in every season of life.**

\*OPENING PRAYER  *adapted from A Litany for Veterans ~ Rev. Tom Williams*

O God – You have blessed the world with life and showered the earth with love. We give you thanks. In Christ, you give fulness of life and eternal hope. We give you thanks. Your Holy Spirit never stops moving in the world and calls each of us once more to grateful praise. Hear us as we lift our voices, open our hearts, shout, sigh, and sing. Hear us, as we give you thanks. Amen.

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

Who are we that God is mindful of us? Yet God loves us, cares for us, and forgives us. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sins.

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**God of the harvest, God of the gleaners – We are quick to thank you for the abundance in our lives. We proclaim ourselves blessed when we have enough: enough food on the table, enough money to spend, enough people to share our days with, enough space to live comfortably. We are deeply grateful, but we think of these blessings as our own. We forget that all that we have comes from you. We forget that you fill our cups to overflowing so that we might share our abundance with others gladly, freely, and lovingly. We fall into traps of stinginess and of thinking ourselves better than those who have less than we do. Forgive us, we pray. Teach us that the truest thanks we can give to you is to share our abundance with our neighbors, for we are all your children, blessed by the gifts you give gladly, freely, and lovingly to all.**

**Lord, hear our prayer in Jesus’ name, and hear our personal confessions, too, lifted now from the silence of our hearts …**

\*ASSURANCE OF *^adapted from Sanctified Art*

Friends – This is what we know;

**God delights in us.**

God throws open the door and says, “Come on home! There is room for you here!”

**In that moment, we are seen, healed, and welcomed home.**

In that moment and from generation to generation, we live again the good news of the gospel.

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

\*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

\*HYMN OF THE DAY *Let All Things Now Living* #37

*offered online by Toshi Takami & Takako Iyadomi*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 100 **– Liturgist**

Luke 17:11-19

SERMON*Just One*

LITANY FOR THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD’S PRAYER **– Phyl** *adapted from FPC-Tecumseh*

O LORD, our God – We come into your presence with thanksgiving. We lift up our hearts in gratitude and praise. Hear us now, as we recount the blessings of our lives so graciously given to us by you and as we, in return, give to you our joyful praise.

Lord we thank you for our health – physical, mental, and spiritual;

**for another year;**

for family and our faith family;

**for a place to live;**

for necessities and extravagances;

**for the seasons of nature and seasons of life;**

for patience;

**for freedom in you;**

for love and smiles, compassion and tears;

**for friends who help and strangers who care;**

and for far more that we name aloud now so that others might share in our joy and also silently for you alone to hear \_\_\_\_\_ (*please allow a moment for silent prayers of Thanksgiving)*

Hear us as we pray for your world,

**for the least and the lost,**

for the children crying in need,

**for parents and guardians struggling to provide and survive,**

for the faithful witness of your servants,

**for those who give from their blessings to bless others in your name.**

Hear us as we pray for your church abroad,

**and for your church at home.**

Hear us as we pray for the least in our communities,

**for leaders and the led,**

for loved ones and strangers,

**for the despised and for our friends,**

and particularly this day, we pray for

**This week, we pray for**

Angie Price, Brian Alexander, Bryer Scales, Catherine McIntyre, Christine Klinger, Clara Caldwell,

Dan Hostetter, Diane Lang, Diane Sillaman, Jim Edwards, LeAnna Meats, Lindsay Smith, Nancy Robohn, Nathaniel Ciero, Rick Buck, Rick Edwards, Sharon Brickell, Tim Webb, Wade Coester,

our neighbors in Israel & Palestine

and our ecumenical family in East Timor (Timor Leste), Indonesia, Philippines

and others whose names are in our hearts.

O LORD – These and all our prayers we lift up to you, united in Christ, by the inspiration and power of your Holy Spirit, moved to pray the prayer we’ve been taught through the generations, as we say:

**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.**

CALL TO OFFERING*from 2 Timothy 1:6 - adapted from Rev. Marilyn McKelvey Tucker-Marek; Presbyterian Outlook*

The Apostle Paul reminded Timothy “to rekindle the gift of God that is with you.” Friends, we have received abundant gifts from our faithful God. Now, we are invited to place those same gifts back in God’s service.

You can pay your pledge or support special offerings by clicking GIVE on the church website, or you can mail your offering in to the church office.

With hearts attuned to God, let us return to our Lord, God’s tithes, our offerings, and our intentions to further Christ’s work in compassionate and creative ways.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison) *adapted from Hymn 367*

**Creator God – We come, thankful that you have safely gathered us in this place. We remain, grateful for your provisions in our lives. We offer to you, now, our prayers, tithes, and gifts for your glory, your will, the good of others, and the goodness of your kingdom. Amen.**

\*CHARGE & BENEDICTION

^ from *From Generation to Generation,* Advent resources written by and adapted from prayers written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | *A Sanctified Art LLC* | sanctifiedart.org

**Scripture**

### Psalm 100 – Amanda *All Lands Summoned to Praise God: A Psalm of thanksgiving*

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us, and we are his;we are his people and the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him; bless his name. For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness to all generations.

# Luke 17:11-19 – Phyl *Jesus Heals Ten Men With Leprosy*

Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, “Jesus, Master, have pity on us!”

When he saw them, he said, “Go, show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were cleansed.

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

Jesus asked, “Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Rise and go; your faith has made you well.”

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THIS WEEK**

**Stewardship Weekly Pledge Campaign** – Pledges received by the church as of November 17 total $103,728. Extra Stewardship

packs are located on the table in the back of the sanctuary. Completed Financial Commitment Card and Time & Talent Forms

can be placed in the collection plate in the sanctuary, delivered to the Church Office, or mailed to the Church Office at 802

Commercial St. Thank you for all you do for the Church and thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7:25)

*Stewardship and Finance Committee*

**Preparing to prepare** -- Worship Committee needs a couple of people to help prepare for next week's Hanging of the Greens service

immediately following today's worship service. If you can stay to help bring up and set up the Christmas tree, please meet in the

library following the postlude.

**Have a Happy and Blessed Thanksgiving!** – Office will be closed Thursday and Friday

**Next Sunday Hanging of the Greens! -** Everyone is invited to stay after worship next Sunday to help us decorate our sanctuary for Christmas! Fun for all ages!

**As in past Christmas seasons, our youth will partner with SOS to sponsor a family -** Our kids will shop during the Sunday School hour on December 10 using the wish list provided by SOS. A box is on the table in the back of the sanctuary for your donations. Thank you for helping us give back to our community by sponsoring a family.

**Monthly Mission -** For November we are collecting for Spartan Spot: Shampoo, bodywash, and toothpaste.

**Pot Luck Wednesday at West Campus** – This month’s Pot Luck at West Campus is moved back a week to Wednesday, November 29. Come join the fun!

**2023 ADVENT / CHRISTMAS LINE-UP**

**Hanging of the Greens –** Sunday, November 26. We will bless the symbols of the Advent and Christmas Seasons during worship. Then after worship, all are invited to stay and help deck the halls and sanctuary and Friendship Room for the holidays.

**Annual Shine a Light for Seniors Drive Thru Event & Lighting Ceremony –** Saturday, Dec 2, 2023 5:30pm. Emporia

Presbyterian Manor. EPC has dedicated 6 luminaries, 4 for our members living at the Manor, and 2 for those we have lost in the

past year. *Cookies & Cocoa  •  Drive thru the Luminary Path  •  Christmas Lighting Ceremony*

**Quiet Side of Christmas –** Begins Wednesday, November 29.Our sanctuary will be open for quiet reflection over the noon hour on Wednesdays during Advent .

**Cantata Sunday –** December 4.Advent begins as the Chancel Choir offers *Sing Joy to All the World!* – leading worship through Scripture and song.

**No Rehearsal Christmas Pageant – December 17.** Don a character and a costume and dive right into the Christmas story. No rehearsal necessary, all ages welcome and encouraged!

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service –** Conclude the Advent journey during morning worship, then celebrate the birth of Christ during our traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, Sunday December 24th.

**Pastor Phyl will be away** through Saturday, November 25, but emergency pastoral care is in place. If you have a pastoral care concern while Pastor Phyl is away, please contact the church office at 342-0375, and the office staff can direct you to the appropriate clergy or congregational care team member.