

# St. John's Presbyterian Church

April 27, 2025

10:30 a.m.



## **Vision Statement**

*Worship God*

*Love One Another*

*Serve the World*

## **Worship Participants**

The Rev. Kent Meads

Winnie Kortemeier, Lay Reader

Sue Goodenow, Guest Music Director

David Brock, Organist

Chancel Choir

1070 W. Plumb Lane

Reno, Nevada 89509

(775) 826-0990

## **Website**

[www.stjohnschurch.org](http://www.stjohnschurch.org)

# St. John's Presbyterian Church

April 27, 2025

10:30 a.m.

\*Please stand in Body or Spirit

**BOLD** People Response

## GATHERING

Prelude (David Brock, Organist)

Variations on *St. Denio*

Carile Schnabl

Welcome/Announcements (The Rev. Kent Meads)

Call to Worship

Leader: I will exalt You, my God the King;

**People: I will praise Your name for ever and ever.**

Leader: Every day I will praise You and extol Your name for ever and ever.

**People: Great is the LORD and most worthy of praise.**

\*Hymn No. 263 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 124466 Public Domain/One License# 84444

\*Call to Confession (Winnie Kortemeier, Lay Reader)

For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. Let us confess our sins to God. (John 3:17)

\*Prayer of Confession

**Holy God, we open our hearts to You this day and offer the truth of our lives: The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us, the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us. Help us, we pray, to have faith that You are with us every day. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

\*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Brothers and Sisters, this Good News is for all the world: Christ was born, lived, and died, and rose again that we would be freed from sin and death. Know that indeed you are forgiven and be at peace.

**People: Alleluia! Amen.**

\*The Passing of the Peace

Leader: May the peace of the Lord Jesus be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

*(Please greet one another and exchange signs of peace and reconciliation)*

\*Hymn

*Glory Be to the Father*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal No. 577; CCLI# 221194

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**As it was in the beginning, is now,**

**and ever shall be, world without end.**

**As it was in the beginning, is now,**

**and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

**Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.**

**Amen. Amen.**

## THE WORD

Moment with Young Disciples

Anthem (Sue Goodenow, Guest Music Director)

Chancel Choir

Message

Thomas' Last Words of Faith Spoken by an Apostle

The Rev. Kent Meads

### **John 20. 19-31**

**Rollo May wrote**, "The relationship between commitment and doubt is by no means an antagonistic one.

Commitment is healthiest when it is not without doubt but in spite of doubt."

When I think about "doubt" I put it between **unbelief and belief**.

**Unbelief Doubt Belief.**

#### **First Paragraph: Jesus is Seen (20.19-23)**

When Christ is in the Center of disciples, it led to Christ-centeredness in in the disciples' lives and ministry.

The disciples wonder, "How did He get in here? Didn't we lock the door?"

He shows them "His hands and His side." (v.20)

In other words, Jesus's body has not been abandoned or discarded.

Jesus does 2 things.

Commission them

Gives them a big gift-Holy Spirit

#### **Second Paragraph: Thomas's Unbelief (20.24-25)**

Thomas, Didymos=Twin was absent when Jesus was seen by the disciples.

They tell Thomas, "We have **seen the Lord**."

He is skeptical, obstinate and demands evidence. (v.25)

Unless he has physical evidence, he declares, "I will never believe."

At this point, Thomas in not doubting.

Thomas is standing in "unbelief."

#### **Third Paragraph: Thomas's Confession (20.26-29)**

A week has passed and once again the disciples and Thomas are in the upper room

Again, John tells us, "the doors were locked" (v.26).

Jesus says, "Hi, ye all."

Then, speaks directly to Thomas with 2 commands: "Put" and "Do not disbelieve but believe." (v27)

Thomas see that Jesus is alive and in bodily form with the marks in His hands and side.

Jesus is not a phantom.

Jesus challenges Thomas to **change**.

Thomas's confession exhibits the change: "My Lord and My God." (v.28)

The climax of passage come with Jesus's words: "Because you have seen Me, you have believed." (v.29)

"Thomas' faith is anchored in sight." (Burge)

#### **Conclusion**

**Three themes that are central to the Christian faith:**

##### **1. The Resurrection**

##### **John Updike: "Seven Stanzas at Easter"**

Make no mistake; if He rose at all it was as His body,  
If the cell's dissolution did not reverse, and the molecules  
reknit, the amino acids rekindle, the church will fall...

Let us not mock God with metaphor,  
Analogy, sidestepping transcendence,

Making of the event a parable, a sign painted in the faded  
credulity of earlier ages:

Let us walk through the door.

The stone is rolled back, not papier-mache,

Not a stone in a story,

But the vast rock of materiality that in the slow grinding of  
time will eclipse for each of us

The wide light of day..."

##### **2. The Holy Spirit**

The Spirit is our assurance in Christ: By this we know that we  
abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us of His  
own Spirit" (1John 4.13).

##### **3. The Necessity of Faith**

John never uses the noun "faith" (Gk. Pistis).

The verb "to believe" (Gk. Pisteuo), John uses it almost 100  
times. (Burge)

\*Hymn No. 366 *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*

—The Presbyterian Hymnal; CCLI# 281842 Public Domain

Receiving the Morning Offering

Offertory

*Sonatina* in g major, HWV 582

G.F. Handel

\*Doxology *Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

—The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 592; One License# 96892 Public Domain

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(Prayers for our Future Pastor and Pastor Nominating Committee)

The 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.**

## SENDING

\*Hymn No. 590 *I'll Live for Him*

—The Celebration Hymnal; CCLI# 23165 Public Domain

## *I'll Live for Him* 590

*Live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age. Titus 2:12*

1. My life, my love I give to Thee, Thou Lamb of God who died for me;  
2. I now be-lieve Thou dost re-ceive, For Thou hast died that I might live;  
3. O Thou who died on Cal - va - ry, To save my soul and make me free;  
Refrain: I'll live for Him who died for me, How hap - py then my life shall be!

O may I ev - er faith - ful be, My Sav - ior and my God!  
And now hence - forth I'll trust in Thee, My Sav - ior and my God!  
I'll con - se - crate my life to Thee, My Sav - ior and my God!  
Ref: I'll live for Him who died for me, My Sav - ior and my God!

TEXT: Ralph E. Hudson  
MUSIC: C. R. Dunbar

DUNBAR  
8.8.8.6. with Refrain

\*Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Fugue on *O Filii*

Jean Langlais

\*\*\*\*\*

*Join us for Fellowship Time  
in Martin Hall after our worship service!*

### **DONATE ONLINE**



Use your mobile device to scan the QR code and donate online! Any online donation should be made before the 27<sup>th</sup> of each month. When donations are received at the end of the month, the money is not always transferred to our account in time to be included in the month donated. It is included in next month's transfer, but at the end of the year that could cause a problem with your year-end totals.

### **SPECIAL CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

Wednesday, May 7: 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Thursday, May 8: 8:00 am-12:00 pm

Church Office Closed on Fridays

Administrative Assistant will not be in the office.

### **HERO HOTLINE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Calling all Hero Hotline team members! Our next Vacation Bible School planning meeting will be **TODAY**-Sunday, April 27th at 11:45 AM (right after worship) in the Library. Don't forget: Your supply needs lists are due. Thanks so much for being part of this awesome ministry—see you there!

### **FREE CONCERT AT ST. JOHN'S – SIERRA BAROQUE**

Join us for an afternoon of beautiful music as **Sierra Baroque** performs at St. John's for a **free concert** on **Saturday, May 3rd at 5:00 PM** in our sanctuary.

The program includes:

- *Bach* – **Cantata 155**
- *Corelli* – **Concerto Grosso No. 4 in D Major**
- *Telemann* – **Overture to Watermusic**
- *Handel* – **Organ Concerto Op. 4, No. 4 in F Major** (featuring **David Brock** on organ)

Come enjoy the elegance and energy of Baroque music in our sacred space. All are welcome!



## **PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN'S (PW) BIBLE STUDY**

Join us for our next PW Bible Study on Wednesday, May 7 at 10:30 AM in the Clawson Library. We'll be diving into Chapter 3: "Women's Lament" from our study book, *Into the Light: Finding Hope Through Prayers of Lament*. Newcomers are always welcome! If you'd like more information or have any questions, please contact: June Rosta (775) 747-3386 or Doris Bennett (903) 278-2617. Come for the study, stay for the fellowship!

## **GET YOUR RESERVATION MEOW! All About Cats – Mother's Day Luncheon**

Saturday, May 10, 2025, at 11:30 am in Martin Hall (\$15.00 Donation per person) Special Guest Speaker: Attorney Marilyn D. York. Join us for a purr-fectly delightful Mother's Day luncheon celebrating the fabulous felines in our lives! Enjoy a great meal, an engaging speaker, and the company of cat-loving friends. We're also collecting Fancy Feast cat food for Options Veterinary Hospital, a non-profit facility supporting animals in need. Questions? Call Elaine York (775) 813-8859. Seats are limited—don't paws, reserve today!

## **BRIDAL SHOWER FOR CHYENNAH MAY ROWE**

We're excited to celebrate the upcoming wedding of our very own Chyennah Rowe! A bridal shower will be held in her honor at St. John's on Monday, May 19 at 5:00 pm. Please RSVP to Ann McElreath [rick.mcelreath@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rick.mcelreath@sbcglobal.net) (775) 846-5513. Chyennah has a Gift List on Amazon under her name and date (Chyennah Rowe June 28, 2025). Let's shower her with love, laughter, and good wishes as she prepares for her big day in June!

## **RENO BURRITO PROJECT**

Beyond food, people need genuine human connection to nourish them, and both of these may be difficult for folks to get on a regular basis. Taking the time to talk to the community creates the opportunity to uplift each other and allows another human being to feel heard, seen, and valued. This outreach is also important in order to discover other potential needs that can be met. For more information go to [renoburritoproject.com](http://renoburritoproject.com). The next opportunities to volunteer are May 4 and 18 starting at 12:00 pm to "roll burritos" and 2:00 pm to distribute.

Donations can be dropped off in Martin Hall labeled Reno Burrito Project:

### **Hygiene Products**

Toothbrush  
Toothpaste  
Kleenex  
Hand Sanitizer  
Deodorant  
Soap Bars  
Feminine Products

### **Food**

Individually Wrapped Snacks (Snack Sized)  
Canned Fruit (With Pull Tops)  
Snack Sized Nut Packages  
Granola Bars  
Fruit Snacks  
Snack Sized Cracker Packets

**This Week at St. John's Presbyterian Church**  
**April 27—May 4, 2025**

<b>Sun. Apr. 27</b>		
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship/Coffee Time	Martin Hall
<b>Mon. Apr. 28</b>		
9:30 am	AlAnon-Monday Morning Wake-Up	Martin Hall
6:00 pm	Pack 10	Geneva Room
6:30 pm	Bella Voce Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>Tues. Apr. 29</b>		
9:00 am	Children's Cabinet Stitchers	Martin Hall
1:00 pm	AlAnon-Family Group	Martin Hall
6:30 pm	Sierra Highlanders Pipe Band	D104, 106, 108
<b>Wed. Apr. 30</b>		
11:30 am	Newcomers Artist	Martin Hall
1:00 pm	The Other Brothers Two Band Rehearsal	Music Room
5:30 pm	The Buttckickers Group of NicA	Clawson Memorial Library
6:00 pm	Coyote Crossing Band Rehearsal	D104,106,108
6:30 pm	Wednesday Night Beginner's Group	Martin Hall
	Alcoholics Anonymous	
<b>Thurs. May 1</b>		
4:00 pm	Sierra NV Children's Choir	Music Room
6:00 pm	Cub Scouts Pack 10	Geneva Room
7:00 pm	Sierra NV Baroque Ensemble Rehearsal	Sanctuary
<b>Fri. May 2</b>		
5:00 pm	Sierra NV Baroque Ensemble Concert	Sanctuary
<b>Sat. May 3</b>		
1:00 pm	Living Church of God	Geneva Room/D104,106,108
4:00 pm	Sierra NV Children's Choir Concert	Sanctuary
7:00 pm	Back to Basics-Alcoholics Anonymous	Martin Hall
<b>Sun. May 4</b>		
8:30 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	Music Room
10:30 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	Fellowship/Coffee Time	Martin Hall

**ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CALENDAR**

Check out what is going on at St. John's!!!

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=c3Rqb2huc3ByZXNjaHVyY2hAZ21haWwuY29t>

### **Staff**

The Rev. Kent Meads, Interim Pastor  
Elaine York, Pastor  
Maria Winchester, Administrative Assistant  
Liz Salas, Financial Secretary  
Lucas Parke, Security Sexton  
Ann Peterson, Librarian

### **Music Staff**

Susan Horst, Music Director  
David Brock, Organist

### **Elders**

#### **Class of 2025**

Aaron Karr, Multi Media  
Doris Krater, Finance; Co-Chair  
Amy Willoughby, Nominating  
Elaine York, Fellowship and Nurture

#### **Class of 2026**

Nancy Lim (2<sup>nd</sup> Term), Missions  
Stan Peck, Membership/Welcoming  
Kathryn Smith, Christian Education  
Stan White, Building and Grounds

#### **Class of 2027**

Rick McElreath, Finance; Co-Chair  
John Dutton (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
St. John's Children's Center  
Rew Goodenow (2<sup>nd</sup> Term), Personnel  
Winnie Kortemeier (2<sup>nd</sup> Term), Worship

### **Deacons**

#### **Class of 2025**

Joan Jeffers  
Ann Peterson  
June Rosta  
Ron Scovill

#### **Class of 2026**

Ann McElreath, Chair  
Sarah Deardorff (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
John Mahon  
Marc Ullom

#### **Class of 2027**

Judy Mahon (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)  
Carole Meiners  
Tricia Murray  
Bev Zakariassen (2<sup>nd</sup> Term)

### **Pastor Nominating Committee**

Dale Clark, Chair  
John Dutton, Vice Chair  
Jann Carmichael, Secretary  
Kelley Bottomley, Treasurer

Sue Goodenow  
Sarah Deardorff  
Nancy Lim  
Marc Ullom

### **Multi Media Team**

Aaron Karr, Chair  
John Dutton  
Lucas Parke  
Chyennah Rowe, Staff  
Maria Winchester, Staff