Faith
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A community loving Christ,
building disciples, serving all

Our Choice

Romans 9:14-29

"The wonder is not that some are saved and others not, but that anybody is saved at all."
-John Stott

Welcome, Guests!

Friends,

We are glad you are here with us and hope you sense God's presence in worship today. If there is any way we can be of help to you, don't hesitate to ask. Here are a few of the questions we often hear from our guests when they first visit:

~ **How long is the worship service here at Faith?** Our worship services typically run 60 to 70 minutes.

~ **How can I introduce myself?** We'd love to meet you after the service; don't hesitate to introduce yourself! You can also visit our webpage (www.faithpresby.org), and click on the "I'm New" tab and then the "Introduce Yourself" button. This is a great way to let the pastoral staff know who you are and how we might welcome and serve you. Also, stop by the Welcome Center on the way out. We have a gift waiting for you there! And if you need a Bible, we can offer you one there as well.

~ **I have kids. Are they welcome here?** Absolutely! We love the sounds of children in the sanctuary. During the children's message at the 9:00 a.m. worship service, kids up to 6th grade are invited to come up front to listen in. Having them stay with you to listen is also fine. After the children's message, children are invited down the hall to Room 4 (grades 3 to 6) and Room 5 (Pre-K to 2nd grade) with our children's staff. Nursery care is available throughout the 9:00 a.m. worship service in Room 7.

~ **Are there classes for adults?** Yes. Check the bulletin and listen for announcements in worship about upcoming classes. We currently have in-person and online classes.

~ **What if I have trouble hearing the service?** If you have difficulty hearing, please ask one of our ushers for a personal receiver for the hearing impaired. Also, a T-Loop hearing-assist system is available in the back four pews on the right side of the sanctuary. Set your hearing aid to the "T" setting.

~ **How can I find out more information about Faith?** Feel free to speak to any of us and if we can't answer your questions, we'll find somebody who can. Our website is a great source of information: www.faithpresby.org. Also, *This Week @ Faith* is a weekly email that goes out on Mondays with information about upcoming opportunities and activities. Email Laura Anderson in our office at landerson@faithpresby.org if you'd like to be included on the email distribution list.

~**What if I'm interested in exploring membership or deeper involvement at Faith?** If you'd like to know more about becoming a member at Faith, or want to understand how you can begin or continue to grow in your Christian faith, we encourage you to contact one of our pastors. You can call the church office at (916) 428-3439 or email one of our staff members. (Email addresses are available on our webpage and further on in this bulletin.) We'd love to meet you and find out how we can be of help.

Again, we are glad you are here with us today!

Grace and peace—The People of Faith

Faith Presbyterian Church of Sacramento

Service for the Lord's Day

November 15, 2026

Order of Worship

✠*Those who are able, please stand.*
Please silence all electronics before the start of worship.

Prelude — Eunice Bancu

Greeting — Brett Shoemaker

One: The Lord be with you!
All: And also with you!

✠**Call to Worship & Lighting of the Christ Candles** — Juliet Thompson (9:00), Miles Febre (11:00)

✠**Song of Praise** (All songs used by permission CCLI #676622) — *Christ Be Magnified*

Prayer of Confession — Brett Shoemaker

Response to Confession — *How Deep the Father's Love for Us*

✠**Declaration of Forgiveness**

One: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
One: May the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Let us pass the peace of Christ.

Confession of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

Welcome — Brett Shoemaker

Moment for Mission: Mercy Holistic Ministry — Berhanu Didanu

Anthem (9:00) — Faith Chancel Choir

Wondrous Love
(Amer. folk hymn, *Southern Harmony*, arr. M. Tootle)

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this, O my soul?
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss
To lay aside His crown for my soul?

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb I will sing.
To God and to the Lamb who is the great I Am,
While millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing.
While millions join the theme, I will sing.

And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on,
I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on.
And when from death I'm free, I'll sing
and joyful be,
And through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on.
And through eternity I'll sing on.

Children's Message/Confirmation Commissioning (9:00) Jeff Chapman

Scripture Reading: Romans 9:14-29 Stan Keasling (9:00); Dawn Vollmar (11:00)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

At this point in the 9:00 service, children pre-K to 6th grade are invited either to be excused to our children's programs or to return and sit with their families.

Message Jeff Chapman

Our Choice

After the sermon, youth in grades 7 & 8 are invited to the Youth Room for Donuts & Discussion.

Prayers of the People Laura Anderson

The Lord's Prayer *(Sung responsively)*

Giving & Receiving of God's Tithe and Our Offerings Stan Keasling (9:00)
Dawn Vollmar (11:00)

After worship, you may place your offering and your 2027 pledge cards in the basket at the back of the sanctuary. You may also give online at faithpresby.org under the "Give" tab. This QR code will take you directly there.

Offertory Eunice Bancu

✠**Doxology** *(literally, Words to Glorify)*

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.

✠**Prayer of Dedication**

✠**Hymn of Faith** *How Firm a Foundation*
#361, The Presbyterian Hymnal

✠**Benediction**

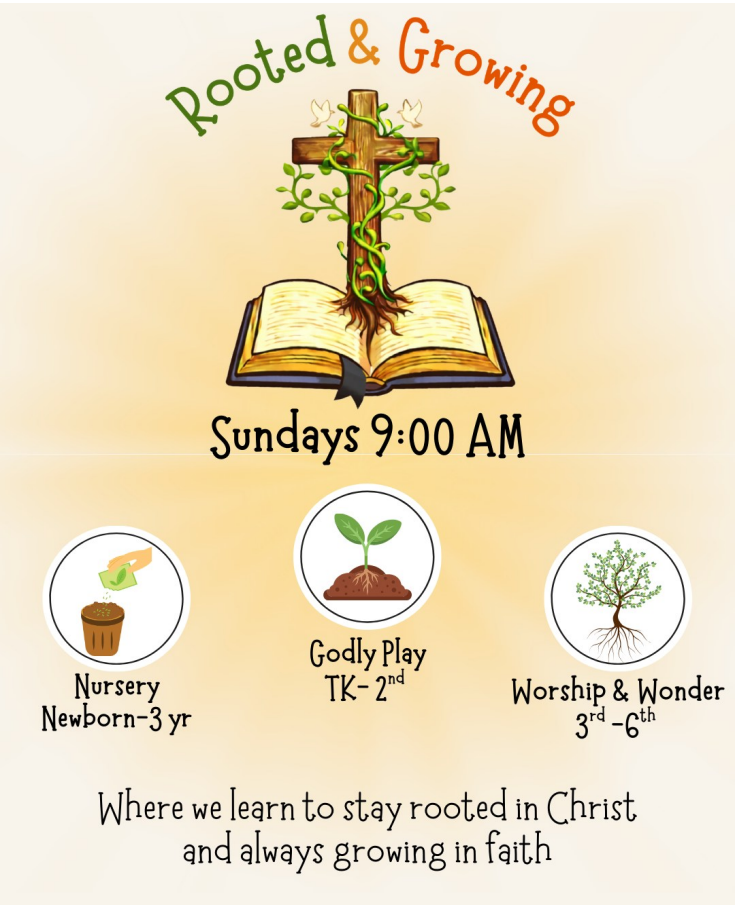
✠**Postlude** Eunice Bancu

If you would like to have somebody pray with you for any reason, there will be a prayer team available in the front row immediately after worship this morning.
Prayer Team: Sherry Beams & Rich Hendricks (9:00) and Georgianne Becker (11:00)

The flowers this morning are given by Kathy Fields in loving memory of her husband, Vern.

Announcements and Events

Family Ministry



For questions about Faith's Sunday morning children's programs, contact Lindsay Stanford, Director of Family Ministry, at lstanford@faithpresby.org.

Gates Locked on Sunday Mornings

From now on we will be keeping closed on Sunday mornings the two gates on the Florin Road side of the property that lead into the courtyard. Though we want to be as welcoming as possible on our campus, part of our hospitality includes ensuring that we are providing safety, especially to our children. All other entrances will remain open.

Christmas Eve Worship Times

A while back, Faith's Session asked you to weigh in on your preferred times for Christmas Eve worship this year. After hearing back from many of you, our elders have decided that Christmas Eve worship will take place on **Thursday, December 24, at 5:00 and 8:00 p.m.** The 5:00 service will be geared towards families with younger children, and we will have a special Christmas drama presented by Faith's youngest members. The Chancel Choir will also sing at 5:00 p.m. The 8:00 p.m. service will be more contemplative. Both services will have candle-lighting as part of the liturgy. Join us as we celebrate the coming of our Savior!

PresbyNews

If you haven't yet seen the October/November edition of the PresbyNews, it is available in the Welcome Center and online (faithpresby.org).

— LIGHTHOUSE —

GRADES 7-12

Confirmation—5:00 p.m.
Choir Room and Welcome Center

Youth Group—7:00 p.m.
Wait til you see the mural! (Youth Rm & Link Hall)

Request to join the Youth Group app:

Contact Pastor Brett Shoemaker for more info and to get on our email list:
bshoemaker@faithpresby.org



Join us for Thanksgiving Dinner Here at Faith

November 26 at 2:00 p.m. in Link Hall



This year, we will once again host a Thanksgiving meal here at Faith on Thanksgiving Day. We know that many of you will already have other plans, but for those who don't, know that you are warmly invited to join us here for dinner at 2:00 p.m.

We will provide the turkey (or turkeys, as the case may be), and we ask that you bring a side dish to share with others (8-10 servings). If in addition to a side dish you would like to bring a pie or other dessert as well, you are welcome to do that. No doubt there will be plenty to eat!

To help with planning, we'll need to know that you're coming … and how many are coming with you. We'll also ask you to let us know what you're bringing so others can plan for something different. (Not that there's anything *wrong* with 10 bowls of mashed potatoes on the table, but variety is good, too.) There are two ways to RSVP: You can sign up in the Welcome Center this morning, or you can follow the link to a Google sign-up form in tomorrow's "This Week at Faith" email.

In the past we have had entire families come to this gathering. If you choose to do this, you can be seated at your own table. Also, feel free to invite others who are not from Faith to join us. Everyone is welcome.

Whether you choose to celebrate here with us or in your own gatherings of family and friends, we pray that the day will be one where we all are mindful of the countless blessings we have received from the Lord.

New to Faith?

We'd like the chance to meet you!

A Look at Faith

If you are new to Faith Church, we would like to invite you to an informal reception so we can get to know you, and in turn you can get to know us. Our next Look at Faith reception is **Sunday, November 29, at 10:15 a.m. in the Fireside Room.**

The reception lasts about 30 minutes. You'll have the opportunity to get to know others who have been coming to Faith, meet some of our leadership, and learn a few things about what makes this congregation unique. You may have questions about this church or about the Christian faith, and that's great—feel free to ask! This is just an informal opportunity to get to know one another. Come join us! *For more info, email Laura at landerson@faithpresby.org.*

November Financial Update

Thank you for your faithful and generous giving, which the Lord uses to support the ministry of this congregation. Here is an update our 2026 Operating Budget income and expenses as of the end of October:

	Year-to-Date Budget	Year-to-Date Actuals
Income	$796,083	$762,467
Expenses	$905,315	$863,408

Exercise Class at Bethany

Bethany Presbyterian Church invites members of Faith to join them on Thursday mornings for an exercise class that promotes balance, flexibility and strength for seniors and other adults. The class is taught by Vicki Mae Denman, who is certified to teach CDC-endorsed fall-prevention courses.

Park in the south lot at Bethany, 5625 24th St. Arrive at 8:45 a.m.; class starts right at 9:00 a.m. Suggested donation of $3-$5 per class. No exercise experience required; all are welcome.

Adult Sunday School in November

Great Is Thy Faithfulness: A Study of Ruth

Dates: **November 8, 15, 22, 29**
Time: **10:15-11:00 a.m.**
Location: **Grace Room**
Facilitator: **Rev. Dennis Montzingo**

As Christians, we generally trust God with the "big stuff," that he is sovereign over all his creation and that he is working out his great plan of redemption through history, culminating in his eternal kingdom under the rule of his Son, Jesus the Christ. But how does that help us in the midst of life's ups and downs when we are struggling just to survive and keep up with all the demands of daily living?

The short book of Ruth can be of great help to us as we wrestle with these questions. The book of Ruth gives us a snapshot of a faithful family, a faithful community and their faithful God living in an unsettled and tumultuous time in Israel's early history. During our study we will ask, along with Ruth, questions like: Does God care? Do we matter? Are we on God's radar? Does faithfulness matter? What is God's plan and what is our part? What is our hope?

Participants are encouraged to read the weekly Bible passages in advance of each session:

November 8	Ruth 1	"Your God, My God"
November 15	Ruth 2	"Finding Favor"
November 22	Ruth 3	"A Righteous Redeemer"
November 29	Ruth 4	"Naomi Has a Son"

Life Groups @ Faith

Life Groups are small groups (4-12) of people who meet weekly for Bible study, prayer and community. These groups have been instrumental in fostering spiritual growth and building friendships for many here at Faith. Not a part of a Life Group? We'd love to tell you more. Contact Janelle Hendricks to learn more (joyfuljanelle@gmail.com; 916-215-7053).

A Life Empowered by the Holy Spirit— The One Called Alongside to Help

Dates: **Concludes this Wednesday, Nov 18**
Time: **7:00-8:30 p.m., on Zoom**
Facilitator: **Alice Parente**

In the Gospel of John, Jesus promised us a divine Helper, Advocate, and Counselor who would stay with believers forever. What would it be like for us to live with an ongoing awareness of the power and presence of the indwelling Holy Spirit?

You are warmly invited to join us as we continue to explore the rich facets of what Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit means for us today.

If interested in joining, please contact Alice Parente at vsas77@earthlink.net or (916) 212-0803.

Here is the Zoom link for the class: https://csus.zoom.us/j/87340011564#success

Advent Poinsettias Today Is Last Day to Pre-Order



If you would like to purchase a poinsettia to help beautify the sanctuary during Advent, pre-orders will be taken today after both worship services.

The cost of each poinsettia is $10. Order yours in the Welcome Center today. You may also order online by 12:30 p.m. today using this QR code.

Plants may be dedicated in memory or honor of a loved one, if you wish, and may be taken home after Christmas Eve worship. All plants should be picked up by Sunday, January 3; after this, they will be "rehomed."

Follow us on Instagram at instagram.com/FaithPresbySacramento

2027 Financial Pledge Update

Thanks to everyone who has already submitted their pledge towards God's work in and through Faith Presbyterian Church in 2027. As of Sunday, November 1, we have received 121 pledges totaling $712,596.



If you have not yet had the opportunity to submit your 2027 financial pledge card, it will be very helpful if you can do so this week or next. This will help our elders as they finalize Faith's 2027 budget.

If you need a pledge card, there are financial pledge cards in the pew racks. All of our stewardship materials, including pledge cards, are also available on the church website. Visit faithpresby.org/give to access them.

To submit your pledge card, you may:

- Drop it in the basket near the back of the sanctuary.
- Drop it by the office during office hours.
- Mail it to the church to the attention of the Pledge Secretary.
- Complete the online financial pledge form. Access it via the QR code at right or the direct link in tomorrow's "This Week at Faith" email.

As a reminder, financial pledges are confidential and seen only by our pledge secretary, Jennifer Anders. Later this year, she will reach out to you to confirm your financial pledge amount for 2027.

Thank you for your faithful support! We are filled with anticipation for all that God will accomplish for the sake of the Gospel in us and through us as the Body of Christ here at Faith.

"Preparing for El Niño & Climate Extremes"
A Community Conversation with Paul Lau & Monica Woods

Sunday, November 22, 3:00 p.m.
St. Anthony Parish Memorial Center
660 Florin Road



The Social Justice and Care for Creation Ministries of St. Anthony Parish warmly invite members of Faith to a free community event focused on understanding and preparing for the potential impacts of El Niño this winter and beyond. Paul Lau, past CEO of SMUD, and Monica Woods, Meteorologist at ABC10 News, will facilitate a discussion of what we might expect and how we can better prepare for this climate event.

A reception will follow the discussion, and the gathering will conclude by 4:30 p.m. This event is open to the community, and you are welcome to invite all who may be interested in learning more.

Run to Feed the Hungry



You are invited to **join us Thanksgiving Day for an early-morning run/walk that raises funds for the Sacramento Food Bank and its local partners.** Join Team Faith and Friends as we walk and run with the thousands of others putting their own feasting on hold for a while in order to help our neighbors who live with food insecurity. To join in the endeavor, use this QR code to register under the team name Faith and Friends. We'll send some info about where to meet up on the morning of the race for a team photo. This week is your last opportunity to join the team; **the deadline to register as part of a team is this Friday, November 20.** Contact Pastor Brett with any questions (916-428-3439, ext. 102; bshoemaker@faithpresby.org).

Presbyterian Women's November/December Fellowship

This Wednesday, November 18, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Link Hall

All women of Faith are warmly invited to join us for PW's November/December fellowship, taking place this Wednesday, November 18. Check-in begins at 11:15 a.m. and the meeting at 11:30 a.m.

This month we'll have the opportunity to enjoy a fabulous early holiday performance—"The Great Christmas Caper," brought to us by the Eric Rainwater Children's Choir. It's joyful to watch these incredibly talented young people perform as they share with us a meaningful Christmas message. Come and receive this wonderful gift!

There will also be time to catch up with one another over lunch and to hear from our board members. We welcome you to bring holiday décor for the bazaar table as well as other treasures you are parting with. We will also have a raffle, so stop by the bazaar table to buy a ticket.

Bring your lunch; drinks, chips and dessert will be provided.

By popular demand, our Christmas luncheon will once again be held at The Izakaya Restaurant, 5651 Freeport Blvd, Sacramento. We'll gather there on Wednesday, December 2, at 11:30 a.m. Lunch is $25.00 per person and includes tax and tip. Tickets must be purchased in advance and will be available at our fellowship on November 18 and through Sunday, November 22. The menu will be provided. There will be door prizes, singing and delicious food.

PW's 2026 Christmas Mission Project will support Our Father's House Outreach. Further details will be provided at our November/December fellowship.

All Faith women are warmly invited to join us for these times of Christian friendship. If you would like further information, contact board member Kathy Ellis (trvlkath@comcast.net; 916-215-4997).

Come and help feed the world!

Rise Against Hunger

Saturday, November 21, 9:00 a.m. to Noon in Link Hall

Faith will once again partner with Rise Against Hunger to help feed the hungry through a food-packaging event on Saturday, November 21. The event runs from 9:00 a.m. to noon in Link Hall (with a few slots available for set-up at 8:00 a.m. and clean-up from noon to 1:00 p.m.). This is a fast-moving and fun opportunity for people of all ages to lend a hand in service to a great cause! And this is a fantastic intergenerational event, too: From young children to esteemed elders, there are meaningful ways for you to serve.

There are two primary ways to help: First, you can **volunteer to package food** at the event. We need a team of at least 75 volunteers. Second, you can **donate funds in advance of the event**. The more money we raise, the more food we can purchase and package. To help in either capacity, scan the QR code at left (or, if you prefer, wait for the direct link in tomorrow's "This Week at Faith" email).

Thank you in advance for your support of this important mission endeavor, the ultimate aim of which is to defeat world hunger once and for all. We hope to see you on November 21!

Two Employment Opportunities at SSIP

Faith's long-time mission partner, South Sacramento Interfaith Partnership Food Closet ("SSIP") is currently seeking to fill two positions. Details are provided in brief below. To find out more, see the flyer on the bulletin board across from Room 2, or visit ssipfoodcloset.org/joinourteam.

Food Closet Coordinator

- Full-time position with paid sick leave, vacation and holidays
- Salary: $50,000 to $58,000 DOE
- Primary Responsibilities in Brief:
  - ◊ Coordinate all volunteer activities
  - ◊ Plan appreciation events & conduct surveys
  - ◊ Maintain & manage databases and webpages
- Required Skills & Abilities in Brief:
  - ◊ Ability to work well with volunteers and staff
  - ◊ Good communication skills
  - ◊ Excellent attention to detail
  - ◊ Proficiency with MS Office and Google suites

To Apply, submit cover letter and resume to:

Simon Yeh, Executive Director
info@ssipfoodcloset.org
5625 24th St, Sacramento, 95822
916-428-5290

Warehouse Assistant

- Part-time position, Monday to Friday
- Compensation: starting at $20 per hour
- Primary Responsibilities in Brief:
  - ◊ Help process and distribute foodstuffs
  - ◊ Operate equipment safely
  - ◊ Assist with opening, closing & cleaning
  - ◊ Sort, store & restock dry goods
- Required Skills & Abilities in Brief:
  - ◊ Ability to work well with volunteers, staff and clients
  - ◊ Know & use safe food-handling procedures and safety practices
  - ◊ Excellent attention to detail
  - ◊ Ability to lift 50 lbs.
  - ◊ Have a clean DMV record and pass a background check.

To Apply, submit cover letter and resume to:

Sandy Kim, Operations Manager
info@ssipfoodcloset.org
5625 24th St, Sacramento, 95822
916-428-5290

Year-End Financial Deadlines



As 2026 begins to draw towards its close, Faith's Finance Team wants to be sure you are aware of these important deadlines for giving and for payment of reimbursements and invoices:

If you would like your **giving** to be counted in 2026, it must be received in the office on or before Thursday, December 31, or postmarked in 2026.

For those requesting **reimbursement** for purchases made for the church in 2026, completed Request for Reimbursement (RFR) forms that include your signature as the "Payee," as well as the elder's authorizing signature, must be submitted to Rachael Tezanos-Pinto, Faith's Financial Assistant, by the end of the day on **Wednesday, December 16.** If you leave an RFR in an elder's mailbox for signature, be sure to contact that elder promptly and let him or her know it is there. Remember that elders will need enough advance notice so as to have time to swing by the church and complete and submit the form to Rachael by December 16th.

Any **invoice** to be paid out of the 2026 budget year must be submitted to Rachael, along with the completed Request for Payment form, by the end of the day on **Wednesday, December 16.**

From December 16 to 31, do not make purchases for the church except in urgent circumstances, in which case, submit completed and signed documentation immediately. As a reminder, 2026 purchases cannot be reimbursed out of the 2027 budget.

If you have any questions, please contact Finance Elder Jim Houston (jimwhouston2@gmail.com).

Serving on Sunday at Faith

	Serving Today (11/15)		Serving Next Sunday (11/22)	
	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	9:00 a.m.	11:00 a.m.
Acolyte	Juliet Thompson	Miles Febre	Melina Markarian	Josh Chand
Coffee Hosts	John & Stephanie Homen	Lorraine Otani Sylvia Warner	Clint & Mai Scott Melanie Scott	Paul & Betty Keller
Communion Servers	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Greeters	Bill Edgar & Linda Olsen-Edgar	Lyndon Thomson	Frank DeYoung Marianne Jenkins	Kathy Fiels Vickie Weaver Owens
Lock-up	N.A.	Brian Heiden	N.A.	Tom Busch
Media Center Techs	David Nash Anthony Shelton	Paul Kinney	Dave Anders Audrey Newport	Rick Hom
Pew Crew	*Serving 11/16—11/19*	Karena Van Duyn	*Serving 11/23—11/25*	Jane Owen
Prayer Team	Sherry Beams Rich Hendricks	Georgianne Becker	Audrey Newport Anthony Shelton	Lucy DaCastello Kathy Stern
Teller Escorts	Bob DeYoung	Jarvis Arellano	Bill Edgar	Paul Heaton
Tellers	N.A.	Erwina Bush Jim Tracy	N.A.	Bill Edgar Paul Heaton
Ushers	Stan & Cynde Keasling	Renee Larsen	Sheila Sanders	Melodi Andersen
Welcome Ctr.	Candi Okada	TBD	Marianne Jenkins	Kay Lum
Worship Asst.	Stan Keasling	Dawn Vollmar	Paul Kinney	Lucy DaCastello

Faith Worship Band: Eunice Bancu, Michaela Bannerman, Shane Bannerman, Esther Chapman, Andrew Chen, Victor Contreras, Sue Kim, Cindi Kinney, Paul Kinney, Carolyn Kubish, Mark Markarian, Paul Philleo, Zach Roberts, Makayla Van Duyn, Vickie Weaver Owens and Jill Whitney.

Faith Brass Ensemble: José Hermocillo, Tom McDuffie, Fred Noteware, Betsy Pehrson, Dan Pehrson, Steve Rock, Laura Schneider and Carolyn Tillman (Director).

Faith Chancel Choir: Cynthia Abbott, Wendy Benjamin, Gregory Collins, Joe De Illy, Sally Evey, Jessica Flash, Paul Heaton, Janeil Hogue, Sue Kim, Cindi Kinney, Paul Kinney, Carolyn Kubish, Barbara LaPlaca, Kay Lum, Phil Lum, Betsy Pehrson, Dan Pehrson, Paul Philleo, Ken Pisor, April Reichert, Edna Rush, Ron Sprinkle and Charlotte Van Wagner.

Faith Staff Members ~ Contact Us

Laura Anderson ~ Office Manager	landerson@faithpresby.org
Eunice Bancu ~ Accompanist	eunicedbancu@gmail.com
Jeff Chapman ~ Pastor/Head of Staff	*On sabbatical until November 2*
Brett Shoemaker ~ Associate Pastor/Acting Head of Staff	bshoemaker@faithpresby.org
Lindsay Stanford ~ Director of Family Ministry	lstanford@faithpresby.org
Rachael Tezanos-Pinto ~ Communications Coordinator & Financial Assistant	rtezanos-pinto@faithpresby.org
Mark Tootle ~ Director of Music Ministry	mtootle@faithpresby.org

All Members of the Church ~ Ministers

Faith Presbyterian Church ~ 625 Florin Road, Sacramento, 95831 ~ www.faithpresby.org ~ (916) 428-3439

This Week at Faith: November 15—21

SUNDAY

- **Worship—9:00 & 11:00 a.m. (Sanctuary)**
- Adult Sunday School—10:15 a.m. (Grace Rm)
- Women's Life Group—10:15 a.m. (Rm 2)
- Outreach Meeting—10:15 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Our Savior's Anglican Church Worship —12 p.m. (Link Hall)
- Fellowship Team Meeting—12:15 p.m. (Grace Rm)
- Nominating Committee Meeting—12:30 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Camellia Juniors Recital—2 p.m. (Sanctuary)
- Immanuel Indonesian Church—4 p.m. (Link Hall)
- Confirmation—5 p.m. (Choir Rm, Welcome Center)
- Youth Group—7 p.m. (Youth Rm)
- AA Meeting—7 p.m. (Rm 2)

MONDAY

- Faith Staff Meeting—9:30 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- SSIP Meeting—12:30 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Crafters—1 p.m. (Rm 2)
- Men's Life Group—1:30 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Discipleship Group—7 p.m. (Grace Rm)
- Women's AA Meeting—7 p.m. (Rm 2)

TUESDAY

- Morning Prayer—7:30 a.m. (Online)
- BSF—9 a.m. (Campus)
- Life Group—4 p.m. (Grace Rm)
- AA Meeting—8 p.m. (Rm 2)

WEDNESDAY

- Women's Life Group—10 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- PW Fellowship—11:30 a.m. (Link Hall)
- Life Group—5:30 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Worship Band Rehearsal—6 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Life Group—7 p.m. (Choir Rm)
- Men's AA Meeting 7 p.m. (Rm 2)

THURSDAY

- Men's Life Group—7:30 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Staff Prayer—9 a.m. (Online)
- Women's Life Group—9:30 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Women's Life Group—10:30 a.m. (Grace Rm)
- Men's Life Group—3 p.m. (Fireside Rm)
- FAA Meeting—6:30 p.m. (Rm 4)
- Choir Rehearsal—7 p.m. (Sanctuary, Choir Rm)
- AA Meeting—8 p.m. (Rm 2)

FRIDAY

- RSVP Concert—7:30 p.m. (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY

- Renovare Prayer Group—8 a.m. (Fireside Rm)
- Rise Against Hunger—8 a.m. (Set-up Crew) or 9 a.m. (Food Packagers)
- Tai Chi—8:30 a.m. (Courtyard)
- Faith Brass Ensemble—9:30 a.m. (Sanctuary)
- IIC Thanksgiving Service—5 p.m. (Link Hall)

RSVP Concert at Faith

This Friday, November 20, 7:30 p.m.

Our Faith community is warmly invited to come and enjoy a concert by RSVP (Reconciliation Singers Voices of Peace), one of Sacramento's premier vocal ensembles, here in Faith's sanctuary **this Friday, November 20, at 7:30 p.m.** (Doors open at 7:00 p.m.) The concert is free, with an opportunity to offer a free-will donation. All monies received will be donated to "4 Paws 2 Freedom," a local nonprofit that helps veterans and first responders by providing therapy and support dogs. (Visit 4paws2freedom.org for more.)

To learn more about RSVP and their commitment to giving back to their community through music, visit their website at rsvpchoir.org.

Calendar at a Glance

Upcoming dates of note in our life at Faith

November 21	Rise Against Hunger
November 29	First Sunday in Advent
December 12	Family Ministry Christmas Celebration
January 22	Seniors Winterfest Luncheon
February 10	Ash Wednesday; Lent begins
March 28	Easter
April 2-4	Women's Retreat
April 23-25	Men & Boys' Retreat
July 19-29	Academy of Arts (AOA)
August 1	AOA Performance

Faith Presbyterian Church of Sacramento

"The Next Step"

A Resource for Life Groups and/or Personal Application

November 15, 2026

Romans 9:14-29 (NRSV)

14 What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! 15 For he says to Moses,

"I will have mercy on whom I have mercy,
and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."

16 It does not, therefore, depend on human desire or effort, but on God's mercy. 17 For Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." 18 Therefore God has mercy on whom he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.

19 One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?" 20 But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'" 21 Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

22 What if God, although choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath—prepared for destruction? 23 What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory— 24 even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? 25 As he says in Hosea:

"I will call them 'my people' who are not my people;
and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one,"

26 and,

"In the very place where it was said to them,
'You are not my people,'
there they will be called 'children of the living God.'"

27 Isaiah cries out concerning Israel:

"Though the number of the Israelites be like the sand by the sea,
only the remnant will be saved.
28 For the Lord will carry out
his sentence on earth with speed and finality."

29 It is just as Isaiah said previously:

"Unless the Lord Almighty
had left us descendants,
we would have become like Sodom,
we would have been like Gomorrah."

Message Notes

Our Choice

#1 The Lord is sovereign in all things. (Ephesians 1:1, Proverbs 21:1, Psalm 103:19, Job 42:2, Isaiah 46:9-10, Romans 8:28, Colossians 1:16-17)

#2 We all deserve God's condemnation and we cannot save ourselves. (Romans 3:19-23, Romans 6:23, John 3:18)

#3 In his sovereignty, the Lord chooses some who are undeserving to be saved anyway by grace. (Romans 3:10-11, Romans 8:7, John 6:44, Ephesians 1:4-5, Romans 8:29-30, 2 Timothy 1:9, John 15:16)

#4 If God chooses even one person to be saved, that makes God, by definition, merciful. (Romans 9:15-16, Titus 3:5, Ephesians 2:4-5)

#5 God's desire is that all would be saved. (Jeremiah 29:13, 2 Peter 3:9, Matthew 7:7, 1 Timothy 2:3-4, Ezekiel 18:23)

#6 God did not create sinful human beings just so that he can punish them. (Genesis 1:31, Ecclesiastes 7:29, Ezekiel 33:11)

#7 To reject election is to reject grace. (Ephesians 2:8-9, 2 Timothy 1:9, John 15:16)

#8 If anybody is lost, the blame is theirs. If anybody is saved, the credit is God's. (Romans 1:18-32, John 3:16-18, Romans 10:21, Matthew 23:37)

Questions to Consider...

The following questions and scriptures are provided for Life Groups and individuals who want to reflect further on today's message.

1. Read Romans 9:1-29, including the verses from last week to get the whole context.

2. Take time to go through, one at a time, the eight truths which were presented (see the list on the previous page). At each truth, ask whether or not you believe this a faithful summary of biblical truth. Other scriptures are provided if you would like to explore in more depth.

3. In what way are these truths dependent on one another?

4. Give your reaction to the three takeaways given at the end of the sermon:

   #1—The doctrine of election leaves no room for boasting.

   #2—Since we don't know who God chooses, we are called to love everyone and share the gospel with everyone.

   #3—In all things we trust God, and specifically trust that he is more gracious and loving than we can now imagine.



Table to Table: Something for kids and adults to consider together

Why does God give us the choice to trust him or not to trust him? If God can do anything, why doesn't he just make everybody trust him and love him?

Meeting With God This Week

To help you LISTEN to God…

For your continued times of meeting with God daily, we offer the following passages from God's Word for your reflection. If you need a Bible, let us know and we'll give you one. We encourage you to keep a journal at hand to write down what you hear as you listen to God's Word. If you are new to all this, these steps may help you get started:

Invite - Find a time and space where you can have at least fifteen minutes of privacy and silence. Begin by taking a moment to simply ask God to meet you. Expect God to answer your prayer and show up.

Scripture - Read slowly through the passage for the day (we offer suggestions below). Read it again, if you like. Pay attention to phrases or ideas that particularly strike you.

Listen and Reflect - Use a journal to write down what you hear God saying in these verses. What is God telling you about himself? What is God telling you about your life? What is God telling you he wants you to do or to do differently? What questions are raised? What promises are revealed? Write what you hear.

Respond - Use the 3 R's. **#1 - Rejoice!** What have I heard from God which causes me to praise God and give thanks? Pray accordingly. **#2—Repent.** What have I heard from God that brings to light sin in my life or change that needs to take place? **#3—Request.** What have I heard from God that informs the way I pray for myself and others? (The guide in the column to the right, "To Help You Speak with God," may be useful as you pray for others this week.)

Suggested Scriptures for the Week, as we offer God a portion of each day in His Word.

Monday:	Isaiah 11-12 / Psalm 16
Tuesday:	Isaiah 13-14 / Psalm 17
Wednesday:	Isaiah 15-16 / Psalm 18
Thursday:	Isaiah 17-18 / Psalm 19
Friday:	Isaiah 19-20 / Psalm 20
Saturday:	Isaiah 21-22 / Psalm 21
Sunday:	Isaiah 23-24 / Psalm 22

To help you SPEAK with God…

♦**Pray for Our Faith Family, Especially…**

Sally Ebersole ~ Bill Edgar & Linda Olsen-Edgar ~ Carol Eikelmann ~ Jack & Kate Eisel ~ Princess Elliott-Williams

♦**Prayers for Healing & Comfort:**

For Healing & Strength: Carol Keller, Bob Johnson, Clara Murrels, Kristen Bye, Barbara Tracy, Cheryl Chan, Sandy Smoley, Nick LaPlaca, Marvette Swayzer, Glenda Arellano, Em Baker, John Warren, Frank DeYoung, Joe Teixeira, Barbara Hull, Phyllis Eres, Michele Yarbrough.

♦**Church Leadership:**

Eunice Bancu	Accompanist
Stan Keasling	Elder, Personnel
Zarrin Sanchez	Deacon, Parish 4

♦**Other Opportunities for Prayer**

Prayer Chain: Contact Alice Parente at vsas77@earthlink.net to share a prayer concern or to become part of the prayer chain.

Pre-Service Prayer: We meet in the Fireside Room every Sunday morning at 8:30 for prayer before worship. All are welcome.

Prayer After Worship: If you would like someone to pray with you, our prayer team will be available at the front of the church immediately following worship this morning.

Tuesday Morning Zoom Prayer Gathering:



All are welcome to join us for prayer on Zoom Tuesday mornings from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. Using a psalm or other scripture as our guide, we pray together—some silently, some aloud. Most of us keep our cameras off. It's wonderful to start our day in this way together. The Zoom ID is **871 3470 6671.**