



**THE LORD'S DAY**  
*November 12, 2023*  
**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**  
*10:00 a.m.*

PRELUDE *Piano/Chancel Organ*

CALL TO WORSHIP & STRIKING THE HOUR *"Amazing Grace" The Carillon Bells*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS  
**POSTING OF THE COLORS**

† INTROIT *"Majesty" Page 10*  
 † *Please stand as you are able.* (Verse 1)

† HYMN *"Holy, Holy, Holy" Page 3*  
 (Verses 1,2,4)

† PRAYER OF THE DAY AND THE LORD'S PRAYER  
 † ANTHEM *"Gloria Patri" Page 813*

HYMN *"Abide With Me" Page 642*  
 (Verses 1,3,4)

**WE PRAY FOR ONE ANOTHER AND RECITE GOD'S COVENANT PROMISES**

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONSORIAL *"Psalm 136" Psalter 136<sup>A</sup>*  
 Sung To The Tune of: *"Christ the Lord has Risen Today"*  
 (Verses 6,7)

RESPONSIVE READING: *"The Westminster Catechism"*

**WE RETURN OUR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE UNTO THE LORD**

RECEIVING THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS  
 † DOXOLOGY AND OFFERTORY PRAYER

**WE LIFT OUR VOICES IN PRAISE**

HYMN *"We Are Called to Be God's People" Page 415*  
 (All Verses)

SPECIAL MUSIC

**EXPOSITION OF THE WORD AND CONFESSION OF FAITH**

THE SERMON  
*"Time, Tenacity and Tenderness."*  
 (Like the Michael Bolton song, just better and with a twist.)  
 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

† THE APOSTLES' CREED

† CLOSING HYMN *"Victory in Jesus" Page 353*  
 (Verses 1,3)

† BENEDICTION

† ANTHEM *"The Family of God" Page 419*

**DEPART IN PEACE TO LOVE AND SERVE THE LORD**

*If you are visiting with us today, we're glad you're here.  
 We are ordinary people on an extraordinary journey,  
 learning to love and serve like Jesus. Come with Us!*



In this constantly changing world, our goal is to reflect and recapture the historic and classical worship of Almighty God. Central to our service is the proclamation of the Word and a biblical understanding of the Sacraments in the tradition of the Evangelical and Reformed faith.

**OUR MISSION**

TO PRESENT CHRIST TO EVERYONE,  
 EVERYWHERE, AT EVERY AVAILABLE OPPORTUNITY.



THE LESSONS FOR USE ON THE  
 TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST ~ YEAR A  
 Joshua 24:1-25 • Psalm 78:1-7  
 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

WE AFFIRM THE FOLLOWING:

- The Holy Trinity of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- God has revealed Himself fully and decisively in Holy Scripture. We believe the Bible, consisting of the Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God and our guide for faith and life.
- There is only one way to Salvation - through Jesus Christ.
- The sanctity of human life based on our creation in the image of God and our election by God for service in His Kingdom. This leads us to respectfully affirm the sanctity of life at every stage, from conception to ordinary death.
- The Biblical principles of immutable gender and sexuality: The exclusive union of one man and one woman in marriage; and fidelity to its vows. And, chastity outside of marriage for the sake of the Kingdom.
- God made all people from one man and although people can be distinguished by different ethnicities and nationalities, we are all one human race and absolute equals before God in creation, the need for repentance, and the offer of redemption.
- That the mission of the Church is to spread the Good News of the Gospel in every word and deed. Proclaiming to the world the atoning death and resurrection of Jesus Christ and seeking to bring every person into a life of faith, discipleship, and submission to Him.

ATTENDANCE  
 LAST SUNDAY: 136

Are you interested in Church Membership?

We receive new members the last Sunday of each month. If you are interested in joining our Church family, please see Pastor Kler today.



GIVING REPORT	
Week Ending November 5, 2023	
	<b>\$7,907</b>
Sunday General Giving	4,747
Online General Giving	230
<b>Total General</b>	<b>4,977</b>
Less 3% to Building	-149
Less 10% to Missions	-498
<b>Net Revenue</b>	<b>4,330</b>
Designated Giving	
Building Maintenance	149
Chairs Cleaning	2,750
Education	15
Flowers	25
Gals	90
Hospitality	50
Missions	498
T-Shirts	100
<b>Total Designated Giving</b>	<b>3,577</b>
Net Revenue	4,330
Designated Giving	3,577
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>\$7,907</b>

Monthly Reports are posted in the Fellowship Hall.

QUESTION: What's the deal with all of the gardens around the church and the emphasis on fresh flowers in the sanctuary?

## WHY DO WE DO THAT?

ANSWER: Like everything we do at this church, the outdoor gardens surrounding the building and the weekly placement of fresh flowers in the sanctuary is not just happenstance, sentimental tradition, or decorative afterthought; it is all very intentional, and all of it is designed to point our attention to Christ.

God's People Israel never forgot their garden origins and carried a plant-themed Tabernacle throughout their desert journey, eventually arriving in a lush agricultural land flowing with earthly abundance. And later, when they built a Temple to replace the Tabernacle, the garden motif was everywhere. The Priests of Israel were adorned in garden-colored garments, complete with the precious stones of Eden woven throughout. So, it's pretty obvious that gardens are a big deal to God. You can't get very far in reading the Bible without coming across some kind of garden or a metaphor regarding trees, plants, or seeds. In fact, the Bible begins and ends in a garden, starting with Eden in the Book of Genesis and ending with the beautiful fruit-filled garden of trees lining the River of Life in the Book of Revelation.

The gardens in scripture stand for the significant events that occurred there. The Garden of Eden began as a garden of beauty, provision, and fellowship with God. Adam and Eve walked with God, and He provided for all of their needs. However, it became a garden of deception, disobedience, and death, following the serpent's lies. Adam and Eve's poor choice to disobey God led to their expulsion from Paradise and humanity's desire to regain entry. (Genesis 2:8-10)

The Garden of Gethsemane began as a garden of prayer and fellowship with God. The disciples often walked with Jesus in the garden in the cool of the day, praying and spending time together in the same way that Adam and Eve had walked with the Lord. However, the peaceful place became a garden of suffering and submission to God's will, as Jesus prayed earnestly and ultimately submitted to the will of His Father in Heaven. (Mark 14:32-36)

The Garden of the Empty Tomb began as a garden of weeping and despair as the followers of Jesus mourned His death on the cross. Three days later, this garden became a garden of resurrection when Jesus rose from the dead and a garden of rejoicing because He had conquered death once and for all. (John 19:41-42) Gethsemane's garden reminds us that only Jesus, who was fully God and fully man and who lived a perfectly sinless life, could pay the ultimate price for the sins of the world. These three gardens tell the story of the gospel that finally brings us to the Apostle John's vision of a Garden in Revelation 22: "Next, the angel showed me the river of the water of life, sparkling like crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city; also, on either side of the river, the Tree of Life producing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree were for healing the nations. No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His servants will worship Him." (Revelation 22:1-3)

Living forever with God in a beautiful garden paradise is the assurance of eternity for all who put their faith in Him. And, though we are still awaiting that future blessing, we can see hints left behind, proving to us that God hasn't forgotten the Garden plan he has for those who love Him.

"The forms of trees and flowers are the intentional designs of a Creator who has not abandoned his broken and rebellious creation but has instead wholly given Himself to the work of redeeming it. They are like a banner planted on a hilltop, proclaiming God's rightful ownership of these lands long unjustly claimed by tyrants and usurpers. They are a witness, each blossom shouting from the earth that death is a lie and that beauty and immortality are what we were made for." ~ D. K. McKelvey



The Chancel Flowers Are Placed by:



Pastor John & Betty Strauss  
in loving memory of Gillie Bennet

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

-----NOVEMBER 2023-----  
 Board Meeting.....Tuesday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.  
 Church Thanksgiving Dinner.....Thursday, November 23, at 3:30 p.m.

-----DECEMBER 2023-----  
 Hanging of the Greens.....Friday, December 1st at 6:00 p.m.  
 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT.....Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 Annual Congregational Meeting.....Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>  
 GAL's Meeting.....Monday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:30  
 Guy's Lunch.....Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.  
 ~~~ Guy's Prayer Group.....Thursday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m.  
 Board Meeting.....Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.  
 Christmas Eve Service.....Sunday, December 24, at 6:30 p.m.



### THE ELDERS

TEACHING & WORSHIP

Rev. H. Joseph Kler  
Senior Pastor / L.F.O.C. Chaplain

Rev. John O. Strauss  
Worship Leader / Minister of Music

### THE DEACONS

Jim Leitzke, Gary Hatrick

### OUR MUSICIANS

Ann Dantuma  
Pianist/Organist  
Donna Zenisek-Huber  
Flutist

### SOUND BOOTH

Ric Romyn, Joe Negron,  
Jonathan Kler

To contact Board President  
John Vosteen, please call:  
813-731-2803

To contact  
the Pastor, please call:  
813-323-0802



Our Sunday afternoon **Creation Studies Class** is on a ONE-WEEK BEAK but will resume NEXT WEEK @ 4:00 P/M. If you have never participated before, join us NEXT WEEK in the Fellowship Hall.

Official Notice: Please join us for our  
**2023 Annual Congregational Meeting**  
 Sunday, December, 3<sup>rd</sup> ~ Following Worship

Meeting agenda and information packets detailing budget and by-law changes for next year will be available in the narthex

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE AT:

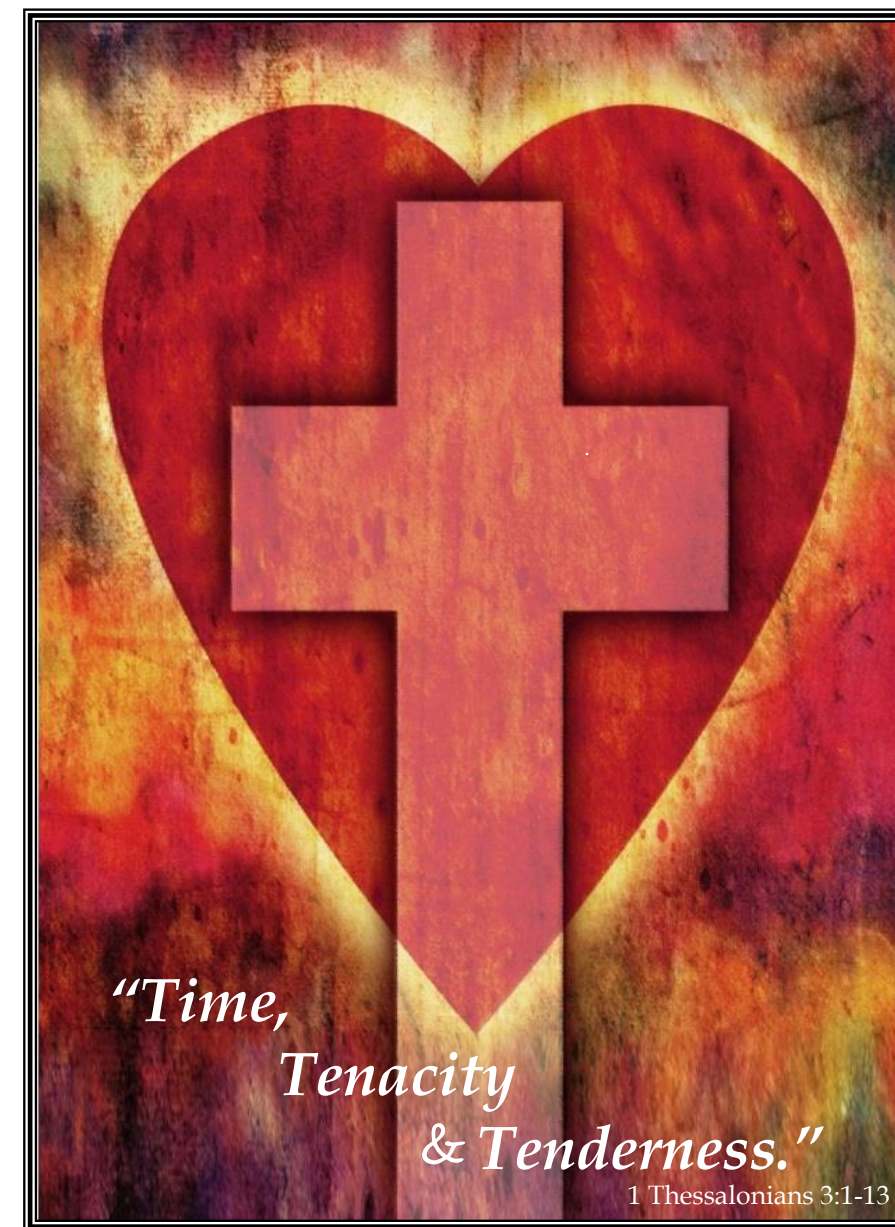
[www.fcczhills.org](http://www.fcczhills.org)  
 Email: [fcczh@aol.com](mailto:fcczh@aol.com)  
 Or Phone: 813-780-6027  
 Monday - Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



# FAIRVIEW

COMMUNITY CHURCH of ZEPHYRHILLS  
 ...a Christ-centered, Reformed faith fellowship.

Let us not give up the habit of meeting together, as some are doing, but encourage one another as the Day of the Lord draws near. -Hebrews 10:25



"Time,  
 Tenacity  
 & Tenderness."

1 Thessalonians 3:1-13

7900 Fort King Road - Zephyrhills, FL 33541  
 813-780-6027 / [fcczh@aol.com](mailto:fcczh@aol.com)  
[www.fcczhills.org](http://www.fcczhills.org)