

ORDER OF SERVICE

October 22, 2023 • 10:00 AM



PRAYER OF PREPARATION (Romans 12:1)

In view of your mercy, O God, we offer you our bodies as a living sacrifice. May it be holy and pleasing to you, an act of spiritual worship.

WELCOME & GREETING

Neil Trainer

SONGS OF PRAISE "As It Is in Heaven" and "Beautiful Things"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Emily Mitchell

Forgive us our sins, O Lord.

**Forgive us the sins of our youth and the sins of our age,
the sins of our soul and the sins of our body,
our secret and our whispering sins,
our presumptuous and our careless sins,
the sins we have done to please ourselves,
and the sins we have done to please others.**

**Forgive us the sins that we know,
and the sins that we know not;
forgive them, O Lord,
forgive them all because of your great goodness.**

**Through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who makes all things new. (silence for reflection)**

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 sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN & DISMISSAL TO SUNDAY SCHOOL

OFFERING "Speak O Lord"

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 1:26–28; 2:18, 21–25, 4:1–2

Janet Peterson

SERMON "God in the Midst of Sexuality"

Neil Trainer

SONG OF RESPONSE "I Surrender All (All to Jesus)"

PASTORAL PRAYER

SONG OF SENDING "Take My Life"

BENEDICTION

Sept 2023 Finance Summary

// With gratitude for your faithful generosity

Once again expenses were greater than our income in September. However, what first appears to be an alarming deficit of nearly \$50K isn't as concerning as it seems. When the budget is spread out across the year, most months are given the same target for contributions – but Calvin's giving patterns are a little more irregular than that. Late summer and early fall tend to be the months of lowest contributions. If you compare our giving from this year to last, it is very similar to where we were one year ago. We remain truly grateful for your continued support of our mission and ministries!

A quick look at the numbers for July–September 2023:

- General Fund Contributions: \$115,825 (less than our budgeted \$147,000);
- Facilities Revenue: \$10,274 (a bit under our budgeted \$12,400);
- Other Revenue: \$22,496;
- Total Operations Revenue: \$148,595;
- Total Expenses: \$198,550 (giving to missions: \$21,958);
- NET REVENUE: \$(49,955); and
- Total Assets: \$917,033.

Quarterly contribution statements were mailed out last week. If you do not receive your statement by the end of the week, or if something appears awry with the statement, please contact [Kirsty Haining](#). As always, any financial questions or concerns may be directed either to Kirsty

or to [Dan Coppin](#), head of the Finance Team.



Below is a repeat from the Stories of Faith column from the Friday, October 7th, 2022 email.

A Beloved Charter

// by Neil Trainer

Recently I began a new spiritual practice with something called a “Beloved Charter.” As you might too, I sometimes find it hard remember that what matters most about me is that I am a beloved child of God. If I’m not attentive, I begin to find my identity more in what I accomplish in the world than who I am in God’s eyes. A “Beloved Charter” is a helpful reminder that God loves me before anything else.

I learned about the “Beloved Charter” from Trevor Hudson, a Methodist pastor and author from South Africa. He encourages us look up verses of Scripture that express ways in which God sees and values us. Collect phrases that speak to you deeply. As needed, carefully reframe passages not already phrased as an address from God so they speak directly to you. Then arrange them into a personal expression from God to you about your belovedness.

In my practice, I take time to read my “Beloved Charter” most mornings. Often, I will find one word or phrase stands out – so I’ll take several minutes to meditate on that and contemplate what God may be saying to me. I prayerfully ask for the grace of seeing myself as God

sees me, and may return to the charter during the day.

If you’d like assistance with writing your own “Beloved Charter,” please email me. You can also learn more about writing a “Beloved Charter” in Trevor Hudson’s book, *Discovering Our Spiritual Identity*.



Contact [Kirsty](#) at the church office if you would like to contribute a meditation for Stories of Faith. The meditation should be short – about three paragraphs or 250 words.



Happy Birthday!

Grmawit Yemane	Oct. 22
Laurel Baker.....	Oct. 23
Russell Janacek	Oct. 23
Jan Wilkins	Oct. 23
Roberta Gow.....	Oct. 25
Judy Runions Green.....	Oct. 27
Coco Miller	Oct. 31
Faith Thurman.....	Oct. 31
Stephen Biney.....	Nov. 03



Upcoming Events

GriefShare, 10 am	Oct. 25
NO Choir Rehearsal.....	Oct. 25
Trunk or Treat, 6 pm	Oct. 31
Messy Church, 5:30 pm	Nov. 01
Missions Fest	Nov. 03 & 04
First Fruits Sunday (collecting mandarin cups and ramen).....	Nov. 05
Surviving the Holidays	Nov. 12
Thanksgiving Eve	Nov. 22



Donate to Calvin