ANNOUNCEMENTS
November 8, 2026

TODAY	Ushers	Greeters
11/08	Craig and Kevin	David and Ginny Christenson
11/15	Dan T. and Dave C	Dan and Leila Bair

- **9:30 am: Sunday School – children and adult classes**
- **10:30 am: Morning Worship and Lord's Table -**
  The Diaconal offering will be received in the designated envelopes during morning worship. There will be no evening service today.
- **12:30 pm: Missions Prayer Meeting**

THIS WEEK
- **Tuesday, 7:00 pm: Psalm study**
- **Wednesday, 7:00 pm: Zoom Bible study on the Book of Matthew** (Ch 8)
  To receive a zoom link, contact the church office – copcoffice@gmail.com.
- **Thursday, 9:30 am: Ladies' Study,** Richmond
- **Thursday, 1:30 pm: Barre Bible Study**
- **Thursday, 6:00 pm: Trail Life**

UPCOMING
- **Sunday, November 15, 11:30 am: Fellowship Meal** - *The general guideline for fellowship meals is for families to bring a main dish plus either a side dish or dessert, and for singles to bring one dish. But bring whatever you can and we will share what God provides with all.*
- **Annual OPC Thank Offering** will be received November 22 & 29.
  Bulletin inserts will explain more about the planned use of these funds.
- **Greens Party Saturday, November 28, 9 am-12 pm**
- **Save the Date: Spring Ladies' Retreat, April 16 & 17, 2027.** Info in foyer

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Elders: Michael Breen, Chris Liff, Andrew Selle (Teacher), Michael Sherburne
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Worship Reflections
November 8, 2026

How Christ's Raising Lazarus points to His Cross: In all that He did, Christ consistently sought to point His people to the glory of His Cross. For example, in John 11, the glory which Christ promises to reveal in this resurrection miracle (John 11:40) is the glory of His entering into the gloomy abode of the dead – into the very height and pinnacle of death's power – the grave itself. First He will enter with His voice (John 11:43-44) and then, at Calvary, He will enter to die Himself, only to take His life up again, after three days in the grave. These resurrections which Christ performs, therefore, point to Christ's victorious death on the Cross. What power there is in the voice of Christ!

The Love Which Drove the Resurrection: Every time the crowds try to make Him king, He escapes or "hides Himself from them," (John 6:15 and 12:36). But when it came time to present Himself for death, He openly met His captors in John 18:4-8. He was determined to lay down His life: all for the sake of His love for us. In the same way, even the crowds of mourners in John 11:35-36 could see how much Jesus loved His own in their death. He was "deeply moved," (John 12:38).

That same love moves Christ to declare out loud in John 11:41-42 that His Father had heard and answered His prayer even before Lazarus rose.

The Bond Which Ensures Our Eternity: Herman Ridderbos points out the solemnity of Christ's pause in John 11:41-44. At His command, the stone has been moved. The stench and darkness of death now threaten to eclipse all else. At that very moment, Christ deliberately lifts His eyes to heaven and gives thanks that there is absolutely no obstacle, tension or sin to separate Him from unbroken fellowship with His Father. Christ has the ear of the Father – at all times. The affection of the Father for His Son, particularly in the Son's determination to go boldly to the Cross to lay down His life (John 10:17) means that every one of His prayers is heard and answered.
But interestingly, the Son especially gives thanks *that He can publicly speak* about the closeness of this bond in prayer between the Father and the Himself – all for the purpose that those who hear or read this account would, "believe that God sent Him." (John 11:42) At every turn, then, Christ seeks to call men into a saving relationship of faith.