

# The Parish VISITOR



*"Be Transformed...By the renewing of your minds." - Romans 12:2 - NIV*

Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood  
4011 Clinton St., Los Angeles, CA 90004-2298  
The REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY, Pastor

cpchollywood.org

NOVEMBER  
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## FINAL CONFIRMATION

*your pastor writes*

By REV. STEPHEN M. BAROLDY



**G**reetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to all the readers of the *Parish Visitor!*

We continue the messages from the last chapter of the last book of the Bible. These messages talk about our eternal destiny in Jesus Christ. I pray they will encourage you.

*Final Confirmations, Rev. 22:6-21, originally given at CPC on 032022*

### **Introduction: Confirmation.**

Today, we continue with the final verses in the book of the Revelation. As we talked about last week, the central part of John's vision ended with Rev. 22:5. These final verses of the book of the Revelation, verses 6-21, contain three elements: promise, confirmation and exhortation.

*Continued next page*



## Welcome

JOIN US AT  
CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD

In addition to the in-person worship, we continue to stream the service on Zoom for those unable to attend in-person.

The invitation for joining the service can be found at the events page on our website at [cpchollywood.org](http://cpchollywood.org).

You can send in your prayer requests PRIOR to the service via email to [sbaroldy@gmail.com](mailto:sbaroldy@gmail.com) or text at 323-202-5078.

**Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is an intentional, healing community; proclaiming and demonstrating the wholeness of life offered in JESUS CHRIST.**



*The central promise is this:*  
**JESUS CHRIST IS COMING SOON.**  
*At God's appointed time, the Lord Jesus will return to usher in the new creation. And there is no power on heaven or earth that can stop him.*

In these last verses, there is first a reiteration of key promises. Second, there is further confirmation of who Jesus Christ is and our portion in him. And, third, there is exhortation to keep and guard this word and do what it says. So, again, there is promise, confirmation, and exhortation.

I love these final verses because the Holy Spirit drives home the message of John's vision. In these verses, the Holy Spirit stirs up hope for Jesus' disciples.

Here, the Holy Spirit increases our confidence, that Jesus Christ is, indeed, coming back to inaugurate the new creation. These final verses help us remain faithful to Jesus through all the ups and downs of life today. Amen!

Now, last week, we looked at the central promise of these final verses. The central promise is this: Jesus Christ is coming soon. At God's appointed time, the Lord Jesus will return to usher in the new creation. And there is no power on heaven or earth that can stop him.

Last week, we learned that "soon" must be understood in terms of God's [kairos] time, and not in calendar time. "Kairos" time is not calendar time. "Kairos" time is God's specific, appointed time. The birth, death and resurrection of Jesus marked a change in God's time. Jesus Christ's arrival on earth inaugurates, or begins, the final phase of God's victorious warfare against evil.

As part of this final phase, God pours out the Holy Spirit upon the followers of Jesus. This also indicates a change in

God's time. The pouring out of the Holy Spirit means we entered the "last days" before Jesus Christ's return.

So, since Jesus Christ's resurrection and the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, the "time" of Jesus Christ's return has always been near according to God's time. This is why Jesus is able to say "I am coming soon." He is coming soon according to God's time.

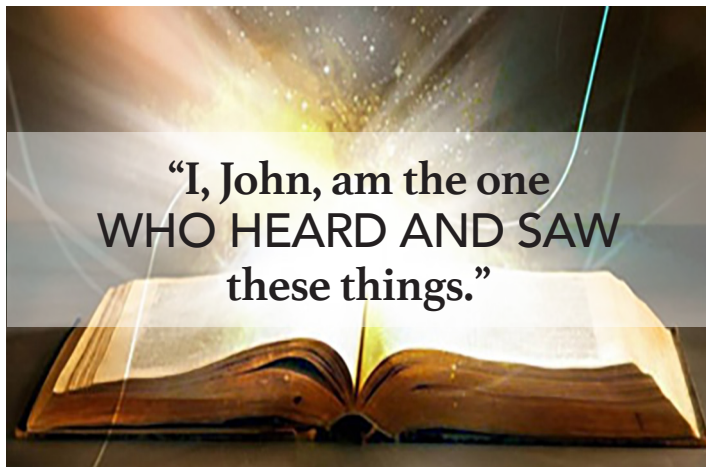
Now, it may take more calendar time before Jesus returns, yet the time of his return is near. And when Jesus returns, everything will change in the blink of an eye.

The good news is that while we wait, Jesus, even now, is coming. Jesus comes, now, through the Holy Spirit, to enlighten us, and strengthen us, and encourage us, and heal us, and save us and our loved ones. Amen!

So, that is the "promise" element in the last verses. Now, let's turn our attention to the next element, confirmation.

**The Apostle John received the Revelation:** The first confirmation we get from these final verses is this. These verses confirm, they reiterate, it was, indeed, the Apostle John who received the vision of the Revelation. Let's look at Rev. 22:8-9.

Rev. 22:8-9 says, "*I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, but he said to me, "You must not*



*do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God.”* (Revelation 22:8–9, ESV)

*“I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things.”* This is a specific confirmation it was the Apostle John who experienced the vision of the Revelation and wrote it down.

Understand, these words would have comforted John’s congregations. They knew John had been sent to the prison island of Patmos. They were praying for John and I’m sure they were wondering how he was faring. This letter would have comforted their hearts.

The book of the Revelation let them know that, in spite of the persecution, Jesus had not forgotten John, and, also, Jesus had not forgotten them. The book of the Revelation let them know Jesus was still using John, in spite of his circumstances, and Jesus could still use them.

This book encourages us, today, that even in the midst of our trials, Jesus has not forgotten us. And, Jesus can still use us, no matter what our circumstances. In fact, sometimes, we are of more use to Jesus when we are in a trial. Why? Because our testimony carries more weight when we are in a trial. I know this from personal experience.

When we are in a trial, when we are in pain, when we are suffering, and we are still able to praise Jesus, and we are still able to testify that Jesus is good, and we are still able to pray for others, it makes the power and presence of God more real to others. It makes people reconsider their view of God. It makes them reconsider that maybe Jesus is real and can impact their lives. We don’t like our trials, yet Jesus can use them.

And, here is another thing. This confirmation that the Apostle John heard and saw the vision helped his congregations trust the words of the Revelation.

This reminds me of something I was told early in my ministry about pastoring a Japanese American congregation. I was told the people in the congregation, meaning you, needed to know me and my story **before** you would trust me, and listen to what I had to say.

And hopefully, after 18 years, you do know me and trust me, and do listen to what I have to say, at least some of the time. Amen! And it was the same for John’s congregation. They trusted the words of the Revelation because it was John who received the vision.

Now, what John heard and saw blew his mind. And, John was so overcome he fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who brought the vision. Notice, the angel rebuked him. The angel said, *“You must not do that!* Why? Because the angel was simply the messenger. Instead, the angel told John, *“Worship God.”*

Worship God! What a great reminder. We are not to worship, or pray to, any created being or thing. We are not to worship angels. Angel worship used to be a thing. I don’t know if it still is. Yet, we are not to worship angels.

Also, we are not to worship any human being, alive or dead. We are not to worship any pastor, or someone sainted by a church. We are not to worship the stars, or mother earth, or trees, or any created thing.

And, we also are not to worship the bible. The bible is God’s word. It is not God. The bible points us to God. The bible reveals God and God’s will. The bible is inspired. Yet, it is not God. So, we are not to worship the bible. We are **only** to worship God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

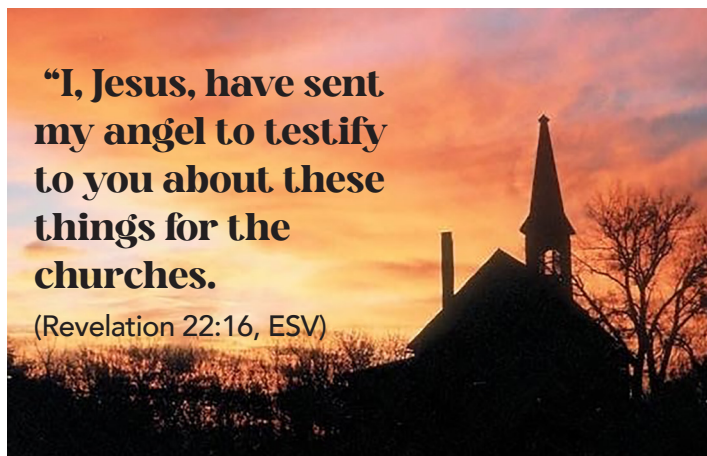
So, the first confirmation we get in the last verses is this. It is indeed the Apostle John who heard and saw and wrote the Revelation. This helps us to trust the words in the Revelation. And, like other places in scripture, these verses confirm that we only worship the Trinitarian God, God the Father, God the Son and God, the Holy Spirit.

**Jesus Cares About His Churches:** Now, the second confirmation I want to talk about this morning is this. These verses confirm a wonderful truth that Jesus Christ cares about his churches. This is why Jesus Christ sent the angel to John with the vision.

Listen to verse 22:16. It says, *“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches.”* (Revelation 22:16, ESV)

So, here we have explicit confirmation that it was Jesus who sent his angel to John. Why did Jesus send his angel? To testify to John about these things **for the churches**, or for his churches.

*Continued next page*



**“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches.**

(Revelation 22:16, ESV)

Here’s the thing. Jesus is not standing far off and simply watching what is happening to his followers. On the contrary, Rev. 2:1 says, *“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him [Jesus] who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.’”* (Revelation 2:1, ESV)

The seven golden lamp stands symbolize two things. They symbolize the seven specific churches in Asia Minor that the Apostle John was pastoring. And, the number seven also symbolizes the church universal, the churches throughout history, including our church, who declare Jesus Christ is the only Lord and Savior of this world.

Here’s the amazing truth that we need to receive again and again. The resurrected Lord Jesus Christ walks amongst his churches. Jesus walked amongst his churches then, and he walks amongst his churches today. Realize, Jesus walks in the midst of our church today. Jesus is with us this morning.

Now, what does this tell us about Jesus Christ’s heart for us? Jesus remains involved in his churches. Jesus is aware of what is happening to the people in his churches. Jesus is our Good Shepherd. And, as our Good Shepherd, Jesus is involved in every aspect of our lives. Jesus is involved in every aspect of the life of our church.

Isn’t that encouraging? We are not alone as we walk through the ups and downs of everyday life. Jesus, through the Holy Spirit, walks with us.

Verse 22:16 says Jesus sent **his** angel. Did you notice that? Verse 16 says, *“I, Jesus, have sent my angel.”* Jesus sent **his** angel to John to encourage **his** church, which was in the midst of persecution.

Jesus sent **his** angel to comfort those who were suffering under the persecution. Jesus knows what is happening to us. Jesus cares about what is happening to us. And, if we will listen, Jesus communicates with us in our trials and suffering.

Jesus communicates with us through the Holy Spirit,

through his word, through his people, and through other means specific to us and our situation.

Take a moment and think. How does Jesus communicate with you in a trial, or on a day to day basis? If you don’t know, pray and ask Jesus to show you.

Jesus is not a far off, disinterested God. Jesus walks with us each and every day. What a comfort! That’s worth an amen, isn’t it?

So, a second confirmation we get in these last verses is this. Jesus cares about his churches, and he walks with us and amongst us, and loves to communicate with us. And, because of this, we are encouraged.

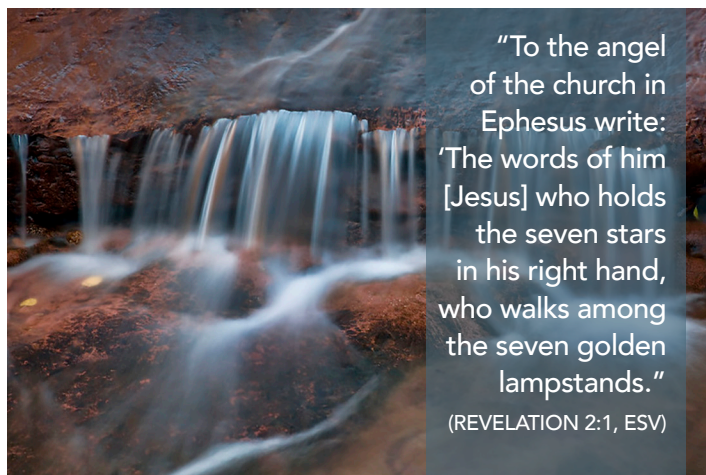
**Final Comments:** There is a lot happening in the world today. There is a lot happening in our lives today. Pandemics, war, runaway inflation, health issues, financial issues, work issues. Some of us are grieving losses. Yet, in the midst of all the chaos, we have a solid foundation to stand on.

We have the foundation of God’s word, especially this word in the book of the Revelation. God sent it to encourage us. It tells us God and the Lamb are still on the throne. That we can still trust they will bring us through.

Next, we have the foundation of worship. We are called to worship God and only God. We are called to read his word for strength and encouragement. And, we always have our weapon of prayer to fight against the evil of today.

Finally, our Lord Jesus Christ is with us. Jesus knows what we are dealing with. He walks with us. Jesus communicates with us as we go through our struggles. So, we pray and listen knowing Jesus is always coming. So, we stand firm. Amen!

See you next month,  
Pastor Steve



*“To the angel of the church in Ephesus write: ‘The words of him [Jesus] who holds the seven stars in his right hand, who walks among the seven golden lampstands.’”*  
(REVELATION 2:1, ESV)

# NOVEMBER 27: FIRST DAY IN ADVENT



## *Advent: What Is It And What Does It Mean*

On the first Sunday of Advent, the Advent season begins. This year, Advent begins on November the 27th.

The meaning of the word Advent comes from the Latin *Ad* (to) and *Venire* (come) and translates as arrival.

In this sense Advent is the period of time when Christians wait for the arrival of Jesus who, according to tradition and custom, was born on Christmas day.

Advent is a special time when people wait together and share in the excitement and anticipation of the arrival of Christmas Day. (*Christianity.com*)



**DECEMBER 3RD  
10 AM TO 3 PM**

The annual church rummage sale is back! Christ Presbyterian Church in partnership with Faro De Luz will be hosting a rummage sale. We are now accepting donations of gently used clothing and household items.

Donations may be delivered to:  
4011 Clinton St, Los Angeles, CA 90004.

For deliveries Monday through Saturday, please contact by email, Simone, for an appointment. [simonebaroldy@gmail.com](mailto:simonebaroldy@gmail.com)

*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 trespasses  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil

*Amen.*



*Lord,  
Hear Our  
Prayer*

***“If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask him!”***

(MATTHEW 7:11)

**PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING:**

• Christ Presbyterian Church as a people of God have entered their 100th year of community. “A people called out to worship our Lord Jesus Christ and to witness to HIS Love for the world.”

• We are thankful! that “In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sin, according to the riches of His grace which He made to abound toward us in all wisdom and prudence...” (Ephesian 1:7-8)

• Pastor Steve and Simone give thanks that granddaughter Alice’s UC (Ulcerative Colitis) has been in recorded remission for 10 weeks! Praying the remission will last a year as evidence of complete healing and restoration of the digestive system.

• Charity Ngaruiya successfully completed her Doctorate of Ministry.

• Praise that no overdoses were reported to Helen Bernstein High School for two weeks. Thanksgiving for the favor Young Life ministry is having on that high school campus. Pray for the harvest and more workers.

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE GRIEVING:**

Grieving is a long process. Let us keep remembering:

• Janet Nozaki and Kay Kamiyama: Emiko Kamiyama died September 23rd. Janet, Kay and Emiko were very close. Kay and Emiko are Janet’s aunts but more like dear sisters.

- Sueko whose brother Pat passed away in Sept.
- Stella’s sister Janet died in early November.

Please pray for Stella’s heart, for her travels, for her family and friends that will gather in Oregon and Hawaii.

**FOR THOSE WHO NEED PHYSICAL HEALING:**

- Dora, Sueko’s sister, general healing and arrest of dementia.
- Charlie, Sueko’s brother, healing and restoration from surgery.
- Dave Kamiyama, Janet Nozaki’s cousin, has been diagnosed with cancer, praying for healing.
- Philip Nozaki, Janet’s son, has one kidney. Pray for protection of his remaining kidney.

• As Brian says, “healing from the inside out.” Also pray for Denise to not fear or have anxiety for Brian, but, be comforted and strengthened for each day.

- Michael Morrow, complete healing from long-Covid. The continual coughing is wearing him down.
- Morsan McSweeney, one of our past interns who became a military chaplain and served in Afghanistan, has PTSD. Pray for her healing and restoration.

**FOR THOSE WHO ARE HOME BOUND  
OR IN A CARE FACILITY:**

Leland Hayashi, Joan Janecek, Barbara Kashiwagi, Kimi Fujitani, Karen Koranye, Frank Morimoto, Janet

***How can we pray for you?***

If you have prayer requests, you can send them via email or text PRIOR to our service each Sunday.

My email is sbaroldy@gmail.com.  
You can text me at 323-202-5078.



Nozaki, Jean Sakai, Irene Mayeda caring for her mother Harumi. Each one has extended their greetings and send their love to each of us in the CPC community.

**GENERAL:**

- For the Dixon family: Will, lost his job for refusing to do what was wrong. Praying for a new job. Michelle, who is fighting the medical system for needed treatment. Praying for complete healing. They have two children who are doing well.
- Young Life ministry to reach more kids. And let's pray that these kids will grow in relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Let's pray specifically for the salvation for Abdul, Eric, and Allan, Batai.
- Praying that the Junior high and High school kids would develop an aversion to all pills that are not prescribed by their doctor.
- For our Northern European brothers and sisters in Christ: to have strength and courage to persevere in their witness of the life and hope we have in Christ Jesus.
- May the Gay community know the Lord Jesus Christ. May they may know that Jesus Christ is the only one who saves, restores, heals, and makes whole. (1Peter 2:9)
- For Mary Tran and family (Mary is the receptionist and all-around assistant in Kris' and Ida's dental office.) For salvation and healing for parents, husband and sisters.
- The Kostov family are returning Stateside for two months. Please pray for travel mercies, wonderful reunions with family, friends and ministry supporters.

**OUR MISSIONARIES:**

The Kenya REAL Ministries, and Janet who does the administrative work for Kenya REAL Ministries. The Kostov family who pastors in Vidin, Bulgaria. The Masons who are missionaries and pastor a church in Japan. Zebley family who pastor in Tokyo, Japan. Bob and Kristy Rice who pastor in South Sudan. Morsan McSweeney a US military chaplain. Alison Puzio, area

coordinator of Young Life ministries to junior and senior high school students, post high school young people and teen moms in foster care who live at St. Annes.

**REMEMBERING OUR FORMER INTERNS:**

Tamara John -Pastor at Christ Presbyterian Church Lakeside. Bob and Kristy Rice – Missionaries in the South Sudan, Sam Codington, Allison Becker – Pastor of a church in Scotland, Diane White -Pastor at Community Presbyterian, Pinetop, AZ, Holly Haines-traveling preacher, Morsan McSwean -US military Chaplain, Charity Ngaruiya – hospital chaplain in LA county. (Ephesians 1:17-21)

For our shepherds: Alison Puzio and Matty Miranda (Young Life ministry), Pastors Ernesto and Juana Salguero (Faro de Luz), Pastors Damon and Guia Woods, (Church on Melrose), Pastor Ted Esaki (El Estero Presbyterian Church), Pastors Andrew and Kate Alesso (Thrive LA), Pastors Logan and Gaby Lee (launching a new church plant, Ignite LA, in the Jefferson Park area).

May we know the grace of GOD and may all our prayers bring HIM glory.

<b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b>		
<b>OCTOBER 2022</b>		
	<u>OCT. 2022</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Receipts	\$ 14,428	\$ 111,089
Disbursements	\$ 13,281	\$ 124,917
Increase (Deficit)	(\$ 1,148)	(\$ 13,827)



**Join us in  
Worship  
SUNDAYS at 11:00 A.M.**

**Join Zoom Meeting**  
<https://zoom.us/j/384758031?pwd=ZnEySIBjL1VkuMhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09>  
**Meeting ID: 384 758 031 • Password: 351955**  
**One tap mobile**  
**+16699006833,,384758031# US (San Jose)**  
**+13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)**

*Gifts & Offering*



*We are grateful for your continued generosity in supporting our ministry.*  
*Please consider sending a gift or donation to:*

**Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood**  
**4011 Clinton Street, Los Angeles, CA 90004**

# CHRIST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF HOLLYWOOD



**SUNDAYS at 11:00 A.M.  
IN-PERSON OR ON ZOOM**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/384758031?pwd=ZnEySjBjL1VkUmhiTWRCREdmZVhJZz09>

Meeting ID: 384 758 031  
Password: 351955  
One tap mobile  
+16699006833,,384758031# US (San Jose)  
+13462487799,,384758031# US (Houston)

*"Christ Presbyterian Church of Hollywood is an intentional healing community; proclaiming and demonstrating the wholeness of life offered by Jesus Christ."*

DATED MATERIAL

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