

## GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

\* Please stand if able      Plain text = Leader      **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE                      *Praise His Greatness*                      Arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS                      The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand)                      Elder

Be still!

**The one who cradled the remnant of creation  
in the cleansing waters calls us here.**

Be still! And know this:

**at the present time, God cradles us in safety,  
even as fear floods all around us.**

Be still! And know who God is.

**The One who is with us in every moment:  
past, present, and future.**

\* HYMN                      *Earth and All Stars*                      (See insert)

CALL TO PRAYER AND RESPONSIVE PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated)

When we get together to praise God, we remember that we are people who tend to choose our will over God's. Accepting God's power to create us as new people in Christ, let us confess before God and one another as we pray... In the lonely neighbor next door, you come to us, but we do not recognize you; In the laughing hug of an old friend, you bless us, but we cannot feel you.

**Forgive us, and make us new.**

In the family member who tells us to "forget it," you forgive us, but we dare not let go of what they have done to us.

**Forgive us, and make us new.**

In a broken world, we see your mission, but we insist on doing everything our way; in your death and resurrection, we find life, but we are unable to believe you.

**Forgive us, and make us new.**

*(A time for silent prayer.)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE                      Laura Sugg

Amen. There is no shame in the good news – only hope, only life, only joy, only peace.

**Even now, God is forgiving us; even now, God is making us  
new. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

\* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Glory to God...*                      (See insert)

## HEARING THE WORD

EPISTLE READING                      Romans 1 (*selected verses*)                      Deacon Reader

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC                      *Praise the God of Faith and Learning*                      Thomas Troeger

Kevin Crowe, tenor

TIME FOR CHILDREN (*As the children come forward, please join in singing.*)

**This, this is where children belong, part of our family, part of our song.**

**Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where children belong.**

SERMON                      *Finding God in Science*                      Laura Sugg

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please stand.)                      Elder

**God created all the worlds that are and upholds and rules  
everything.**

**We affirm that the universe exists by the power of God's Word  
and Spirit.**

**God has chosen to give it reality out of the love we have come to  
know in Christ.**

**God still works through the processes that shape and change the  
earth and the living things upon it.**

**We acknowledge God's care and control in the regularity of the  
universe as well as in apparently random happenings.**

**There is no event from which God is absent and God's ultimate  
purpose in all events is just and loving.**

**That purpose embraces our choices and will surely be  
accomplished.**

**The Creator works in all things toward the new creation that is  
promised in Christ. Amen.**

*—from A Declaration of Faith (1977)*

\*HYMN                      *O Lord, Our God, How Excellent*                      (See insert)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (For Lord's Prayer words see insert)

*(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")*

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY

*How Big is God?*

Stuart Hamblen

\* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Tune: Old Hundredth

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.***

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Laura Sugg

\* HYMN

*Eternal God, Whose Power Upholds*

(See insert)

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *The Trees of the Field* from Isaiah 55:12

***You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will  
clap, will clap their hands.  
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,  
the trees of the field will clap their hands,  
the trees of the field will clap their hands  
while you go out with joy.***

POSTLUDE

*Tell It to Jesus*

Arr. Mary McDonald

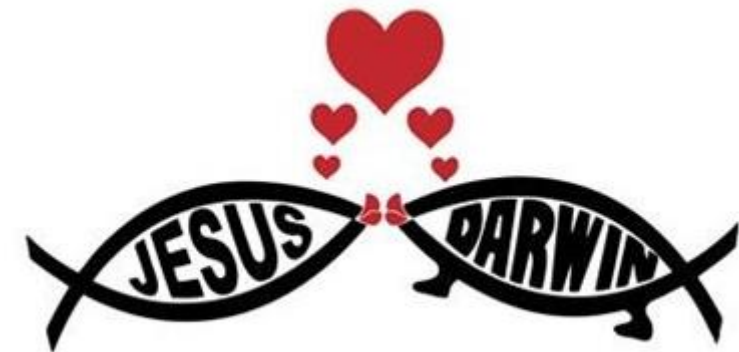
*Please come downstairs below the Sanctuary for coffee and conversation.*

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Pulpit Elder: Caroline Clovesko  
Greeter: Nancy Rosi  
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette  
Outdoor Setup Advisor: TBA

Deacon Reader: Dick Remington  
Ushers: Jeff Stimson and Ted Willis  
Children's Time: Laura Sugg  
Flowers: Lori Golightly

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## *Finding God in Science*

*WPC Mission Statement*

*To worship God through faith and action,  
to nurture the spirit of Jesus Christ in each of us,  
to be an extended family to all,  
and to serve the community  
through programs, education and prayer.*

## *August 9, 2015*