

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 *Gloria Patri, from The Magnificat* Johann Sebastian Bach
Arr. William Irving Nevins

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

God calls us to be builders as well.

God calls us to build our lives:

to restore broken places and continue to grow.

God calls us to build our faith:

to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.

God calls us to build our community:

to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

to preach the good news of God's love for all people.

* HYMN *God, You Spin the Whirling Planets* No. 285

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder

In contrast to God's clear word, our faults and failings may remain hidden from others and even from ourselves. Confession before God can clear our eyes and cleanse our hearts, for God's mercy is as wide as the firmament of heaven.

Let us pray ...

God of our Restoration,

whenever we come home to you,

we realize how far we have strayed

and how much we have forgotten

of your law and your love.

We have not loved you with our whole hearts

or loved our neighbors as ourselves.

Forgive us, heal us,

and restore us to our relationship with you;

through Jesus Christ, in whom we trust.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. God's word does not come to condemn us, but to make us wise,

reviving our souls and rejoicing our hearts.

God's Word has been fulfilled among us in Jesus Christ,

who sets us free to live in accord with God's own jubilee. Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE *Glory to God* (see insert)

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Pgs. 440-441

The word of the Lord.

Deacon

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Prayer for Peace* Mary Lynn Lightfoot

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 *Redefining Revival* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand)

Jesus came to set people free

by the power of the gospel.

In so doing he did not abolish,

but fulfilled the law and the prophets.

Through his teaching and the teaching of the apostles

he showed what it is to be free and obedient.

We declare that Christ has freed us

from trying to save ourselves by obeying the law.

He restores to us God's law as a gift and delight.

The law describes concretely the shape of our freedom.

When we accept its discipline,

it keeps our personal lives from being chaotic

and increases our effectiveness in the church's mission. Amen.

—from A Declaration of Faith (1977)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Chorale* Johann Pachebel

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING *Doxology* No. 591/2

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

**O God, through the offering of these gifts
may we become a more open people ...
open-minded in hearing your Word and wisdom,
open-hearted in healing a broken world,
open-handed in heeding your call for charity and enacted love.
With thanks for all good gifts,
we present a portion of our substance
and the whole of ourselves. Amen.**

* HYMN *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* No. 372

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING See Annual Report

* CHARGE & BLESSING

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

***May the Lord go with you as you leave this place,
May the Lord go with you as you celebrate His grace.
May you be surrounded by His love unbounded,
May the Lord go with you as you leave this place.***

POSTLUDE *Pastorale* Alex Guilmant

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Jim Niquette
Greeters: Ralph & Marcia Hecox
Sound Engineer: Sean Mestdagh

Deacon Reader: Janette Powers
Ushers: Anne Baker & Brenda Cavanaugh
Children's Time: Laura Sugg



*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.*

January 24, 2016

(including Annual Congregational Meeting)