

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 *Meditation At The Cross* Ellen Jane Lorenz
Organ/Piano Duet Betty Niquette, Piano

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder
Like Mary, who lavished her treasure on the feet of Christ,
**we come now to worship
and offer ourselves to the Lord.**
The things we once treasured are worthless,
compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus!
Let us worship God.

* HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* No. 376

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder
If we ask God to restore us to the way we have been, then we have not asked for as much as God intends to give. With confidence in God's generosity, we confess our sins and seek the new life offered in Jesus Christ. Let us pray ...

**Purifying God, we grow comfortable with the way things are in our lives,
in the church, and in the world.**

**We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ,
for you overturn our notions of power and protocol.**

Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others.

Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us.

Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others.

Help us bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice.

**Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world, with the abundant
love of Christ until all are made new. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg
Amen. The apostle Paul reminds us that we do not make ourselves righteous. Phil. 3:9
Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ, who has made us his own. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. The old life has passed away and a new life has begun.

**Forgetting what lies behind,
and straining forward to what lies ahead,
we press on toward the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.**

* SUNG RESPONSE

No. 83 Verse 5

**All glory to our Lord and God
For love so deep, so high, so broad:
The Trinity whom we adore
Forever and forevermore.**

HEARING THE WORD

GOSPEL READING John 12:1-8 Pg. 100
This is the Word of Faith Deacon
that we proclaim.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *The Call to Follow* Joseph M. Martin

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 *Extravagant Love* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder
**We believe Christ gives us and demands of us
personal lives that are centered in God
and open to God's reality and rule.
Christ teaches us
to put obedience to God above
interests of self, family, race or nation;
to offer God joyously our money, ability, and time.
It is part of our discipline to observe a day of worship and rest,
setting aside our own working to enjoy God's work,
celebrating with sisters and brothers the Lord's goodness.
Life in God's presence issues in life for others,
for if we do not love sisters and brothers whom we see,
we cannot love God whom we do not see.**

—from *A Declaration of Faith (1977)*

*HYMN *Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me* No. 366

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP Betsy Smith

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY

When I Survey The Wondrous Cross Arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Tune: Hymnal No. 422

***Lord, whose love in humble service Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken, Worked your mercy's perfect deed:
We, your servants, bring the worship Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to your purpose Every gift which you impart.***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison)

Laura Sugg

Abundant God:

Isaiah 43:19

You cause water to flow in desert places. John 2:1-11; 6:1-14; 12:3
**You give wine to flow at a wedding feast,
and food to feed five thousand on a grassy mountainside.
Your generosity astounds and humbles us.
We bow before you in gratitude and awe,
asking you to receive what we have brought in response.
May these gifts be a pleasing and fragrant offering,
for the sake of the world you came to save.
We pray in your holy name. Amen.**

* HYMN

Take My Life

No. 391

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

No. 81 Verse 4

***Abide with us, that so this life
Of suf-f'ring o-ver-past,
An Easter of unending joy
We may attain at last.***

POSTLUDE

Triumphal March

Edvard Grieg

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Betsy Smith

Greeters: Dick Remington

Sound Engineer: Sean Mestdagh

Deacon Reader: Janette Powers

Ushers: Jeff Stimson and Ted Willis

Children's Time: Roxanne Foster



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.*

March 13, 2016