

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 *I've Got The Joy* Arr. Pepper Choplin

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

With loud engines at the race track,
and with soft-spoken wisdom:

sing to God new songs of wonder!

With planets spinning in the galaxies,
and with jackhammers tearing up our streets:

sing to God new songs of joy!

With fireworks in summer's night skies,
and with winter's ice crunching under our boots:

sing to God new songs of grace!

With crowds at exciting sports venues,
and with children whispering dreams to their pets:

sing to God new songs of hope!

Let us worship God.

* HYMN *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above* (see insert)

CALL TO RECONCILIATION & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Please be seated) Elder

We go limping along, convinced we can make it on our own, that we are too busy for God. But when we look at our mistakes, the words we wish we could take back, the hurts we long to heal, we know we must confess, so God can forgive us and wrap us in steadfast love. Join me, as we pray together saying ...

We want you to know, Holy God, that we do try.

**Between the politicians and the pundits,
it is easy to become confused as to how we should live.**

**We spend so much time trying to win the approval of certain people,
we forget our call to serve those around us.**

**We are so busy telling others 'go there' or 'do this,'
we cannot hear your whispers of love.**

**We do not presume to come to you expecting easy grace,
for we are aware of what it cost you to forgive us, Tender God.**

**But speak the word, and we will know your mercy; speak the word,
and we will be made whole; speak the Word, Jesus Christ,
and we will find that faith to trust you in every moment.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. God comes not to punish, not to condemn,
but to judge – with that righteousness which brings redemption,
with that truth which sets us free.

**Let it be known this day. The Lord indeed is God,
who brings forgiveness and hope to all people. Glory to God! Amen.**

* SUNG RESPONSE *Glory to God, Whose Goodness...* (see insert)

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Psalm 96 (see insert)

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

ANTHEM *For the Beauty of the Earth* Arr. Katherine T. Davis

TIME WITH CHILDREN Tune STF 2233

(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 *American Idols?* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder

We declare that Jesus is Lord.

His resurrection is a decisive victory

over the powers that deform and destroy human life.

His lordship is hidden.

**The world appears to be dominated by people and systems
that do not acknowledge his rule.**

But his lordship is real.

It demands our loyalty and sets us free

from the fear of all lesser lords who threaten us.

**We maintain that ultimate sovereignty now belongs
to Jesus Christ in every sphere of life.**

Jesus is Lord! He has been Lord from the beginning.

He will be Lord at the end. Even now he is Lord.

--from A Declaration of Faith (1977)

* HYMN *Earth and All Stars* (see insert)

(choir sings Verse 1, then congregation joins them)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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

Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY

God Bless America

Irving Berlin

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* Tune 455
(see insert)

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Laura Sugg

* HYMN

All Creatures of Our God and King
(verses 1-4)

(see insert)

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* 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

God Bless The U.S.A.

Lee Greenwood

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Caroline Clovesko

Greeters: Chris and Debra Swanson

Ushers: Ralph and Marcia Hecox

Outdoor Worship Advisor: Jeff Stimson

Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly

Children's Time: Laura Sugg

Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette

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Director of C.E., Children & Youth: *Linda Valo* • C.E. Assistant: *Addie Crabbe*

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: *Julie Pulliam, M.A.*

Choir Director: *Kevin Crowe, M.M.*

Treasurer: *Eileen Gardner, C.P.A.* • Assistant Treasurer: *Betsy Smith*

Administrative Assistant: *Jenny Garner*



*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.*

May 29, 2016