

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 *O Worship the King* Arr. Ron and Lina Sprunger
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

Come, let worship Almighty God.

Let us lift up our songs, our prayers, our praises.

Come, let us honor Christ Jesus.

Let us love Christ with our hearts, our minds, our spirits.

Come, let us be filled with the Spirit of the Living God.

Breathe in us, Breath of God. Alleluia.

* HYMN *Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation* No. 417

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Please be seated) Elder

Let us pray...

**Gracious God, you encourage us with your love,
bringing new life out of death.**

**We confess that we need your life-giving power
in our lives and our relationships.**

We have hurt others and been hurt by them.

We are often angry or afraid.

**We are not sure when to assert our needs
and when to care for others' needs.**

We continue to live in ways that do not lead to peace and justice.

Forgive us, O God.

**Pour your Spirit of wisdom and healing upon us, that by our lives
and our living, we may glorify you, through Jesus Christ the Risen One.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

If we are in Christ, we are a new people altogether;
the past is finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.

**In your great mercy, O God,
raise us from the death of sin to newness of life
and make us your people, unburdened by the past,
unfearful of the future, and joyful in the eternal present,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* SUNG RESPONSE

Glory to God

(see insert)

HEARING THE WORD

THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES Acts 16:16-34 Pg. 129
The Word of the Lord. Deacon

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM *Easter Song* Herring and Wilson
Ridge Ringers

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 ***How Can We Keep from Singing?*** Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder

In the midst of hunger and war

We sing the promise of plenty and peace.

In the midst of oppression and tyranny

We sing the promise of service and freedom.

In the midst of doubt and despair

We sing the promise of faith and hope.

In the midst of fear and betrayal

We sing the promise of joy and loyalty.

In the midst of hatred and death

We sing the promise of love and life.

In the midst of sin and decay

We sing the promise of salvation and renewal.

In the midst of death on every side

We sing the promise of the living Christ. Amen.

—from The Iona Community, Scotland

* HYMN *My Life Flows On (How Can I Keep from Singing?)* STF No. 2212
(Choir sings verse 1, then congregation joins them)

MINUTE FOR MISSION Highlands Camp & Retreat Center Steven Bohn

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16
(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Lord of the Dance* Arr. Kevin McChesney
Ridge Ringers

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

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison) Laura Sugg

**Loving God, we sing your praise for this world of pain and promise.
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 *The Church's One Foundation* No. 442

* CHARGE & BLESSING

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE STF No. 2223

***We are one in the Spirit We are one in the Lord
We are one in the Spirit We are one in the Lord
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored:
And they'll know we are Christians
by our love, by our love;
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

POSTLUDE *Soldiers of the King* R.M. Stults

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for coffee and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Caroline Clovesko Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly
Greeter: Maxine Foster Children's Time: Roxanne Foster
Ushers: Jeff Stimson and Ted Willis Sound Engineer: Sean Mestdagh

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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 8, 2016