

## 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                      *We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise*                      Arr. Fred Bock

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand)                      Elder

Each morning, God's grace awakens us,  
each evening, God's peace cradles us.

**Compassion is our constant companion,  
as we go through work, school, the day.**

In every moment, God is present with us;  
God whispers words which can change our lives.

**Justice is our faithful teacher,  
pointing to where we can carry out fairness.**

When we find ourselves groping in the shadows,  
God's light will provide a way home.

**We turn the corner, and hope is waiting for us;  
we return home, and find a feast prepared.**

\* HYMN                      *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*                      (see insert)

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

We know, despite our sincere efforts to live in God's way,  
that all too easily we slip off the path to the kingdom.

Trusting that God will answer our prayers and forgive us,  
let us confess our sins, as we pray together...

**Great Lover of Justice, hear our prayers:  
called to treat all people equally, we take sides and pick favorites;  
chosen to be your children,  
we arrogantly assume others are not so honored;  
challenged to be examples of faith,  
we reveal our worst natures to our families and friends.**

**Forgive us, Giver of Rest. Enable us to stop putting you to the test,  
so we can open our hypocritical hearts to your  
healing touch of compassion and hope.**

**As Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, has given all for us,  
may we give ourselves to you - confidently, completely, faithfully.**

*(A time for silent prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Laura Sugg

Amen. Hear the good news: the One who created goodness and beauty is also  
the One who shows no partiality, but offers grace and peace to all.

**God has heard our prayers and done the very thing we asked –  
forgiven us, healed us, restored us. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the High–est  
Glory to God, Glory to God, Al–le–lu–ia, Al–le–lu–ia**

## HEARING THE WORD

GOSPEL READING                      Mark 12:13-17                      (see announcements)  
Deacon Reader

EPISTLE READING                      Romans 13:1-7                      (see announcements)  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC                      *Day by Day*                      Stephen Schwartz  
Singers: Kevin Crowe and Naomi

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      ***Skeptics Welcome: Freedom of, from, or, with Religion?***      Laura Sugg  
***(Separation of Church & State)***

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand)                      Elder

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks  
and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,  
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.**

--from *A Brief Statement of Faith* (1991)

\* HYMN *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* (see insert)

PASTORAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day, our daily bread;  
And forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Be Thou My Vision* Arr. Fred Bock

\*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING *Praise God from Whom All...* Tune: All Creatures of Our God and King

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Al-le-lu-ia, (2x)  
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:  
Cr-e-ator, Word, and Spir-it one. Al-le-lu-ia, (5x)***

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

\* HYMN *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* (see insert)

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth* (see insert)

POSTLUDE *Git on Board, Little Children* Arr. H.T. Burleigh

*Please come to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation!*

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Pulpit Elder: Marny Eulberg                      Deacon Reader: Jeanne Miller  
Greeters: Chet, Ann, & Kevin Myers              Time with Children: Laura Sugg  
Ushers: Brenda Cavanaugh & Tracy Langworthy  
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette                      Outdoor Worship Advisor: Ralph Hecox

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**Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church**

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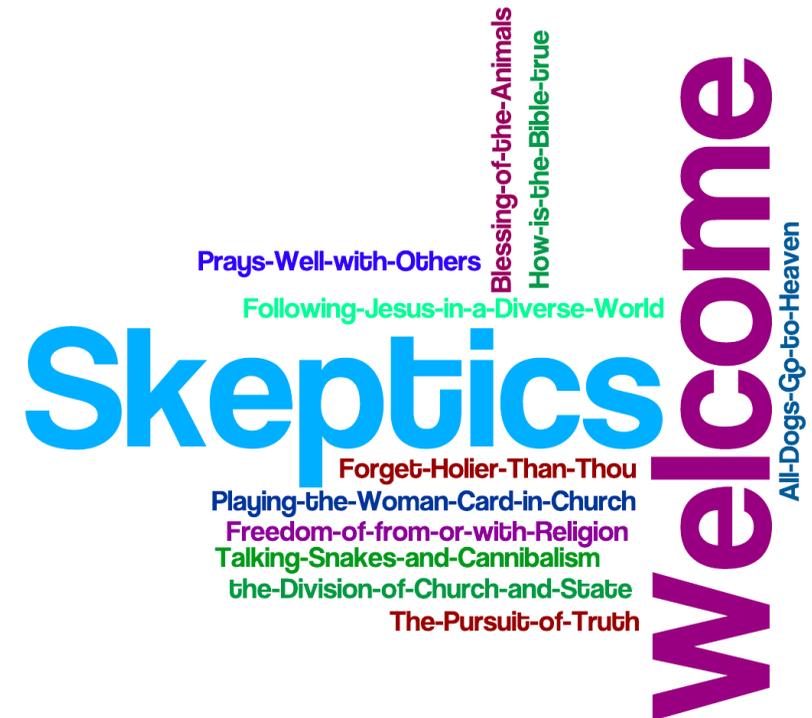
*Director of C.E., Children & Youth: Linda Valo • C.E. Assistant: Addie Crabbe*

*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.*

**August 28, 2016**