

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 *Near to the Heart of God* Arr. David H. Hagerty
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder
Here, in this place, with these people,
we find the One who leads us into God's Kingdom,
Here, in God's Kingdom, with our brothers and sisters in Christ,
we find a Feast prepared for us.
Here, in God's sanctuary,
we eat of the good news, which heals us,
we drink of the mercy which is God's gift.
Sisters and Brothers, praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised!

* HYMN *Morning Has Broken* No. 469

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder
How quickly we notice the mistakes of others, but never see our own faults!
Before we judge others, we need to pray that our blindness might be healed by God's
gracious love. Please join me as we pray together saying...

**God our Great Shepherd: it is easy for us to lose sight of your kingdom,
and your way for us. We hope that love conquers hate, that light shines in our
shadows, that life is stronger than death—yet our lips are filled with bitter
words, our lives are weak and shallow, the shadowed corners of the world
beckon to us.**

**Have mercy on us and lead us to the still waters of your grace and the
healing garden of your heart, Tender Shepherd. Restore our sight to see you
living with us, restore our hope that we might trust you, restore our speech
that we might praise you for your great gift to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord and
Savior.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. With a gentle touch, with the anointing of the Holy Spirit,
with the joy of love, God reaches out to forgive us and make us whole.

**Touch us eternal Spirit; heal us, Light of Love;
fill our lives with new meaning, God of joy,
as we receive your forgiveness and grace. Amen.**

* SUNG RESPONSE

No. 83 v. 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

OLD TESTAMENT READING I Samuel 16:1-13 Pgs. 263-264
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

ANTHEM *Peace for the Journey* Joseph M. Martin
*We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace, There Is a Balm in Gilead
from A Journey to Hope: a Cantata Inspired by Spirituals*

GOSPEL READING John 9:1-41 Pgs. 97-98
(selected verses) Laura Sugg
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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 *Soul Boot Camp: Redefined* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder
**We believe that the church must together
come to know the height and the breadth
and the depth of the love of Christ.
We believe that together we are built up
to the stature of Christ, the new humanity.
We believe that we must together
know and bear one another's burdens,
thereby fulfilling the law of Christ.
We believe that we are called
to admonish and comfort one another;
to suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness;
to pray together; and together, serve God in this world.**
--Adapted from *The Confession of Belhar* (1986/2016)

*HYMN *Open My Eyes That I May See* No. 324

MINUTE FOR MISSION Anne Baker

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *At the Cross* Arr. Ellen Jane Lorenz
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

*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
**Almighty God, by your grace, accept our offering.
Make us joyful in giving
that we may grow in likeness to your supreme gift,
Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN *We Are Marching in the Light of God* STF No.2235-b

* CHARGE & BENECTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 81 v. 1
***Lord, who throughout these forty days
for us didst fast and pray,
teach us with thee to mourn our sins,
and close by Thee to stay.***

POSTLUDE *The King of Glory* Arr. Dorothy Wells
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Jim Niquette Deacon Reader: Jeff Stimson
Greeters: Anne Baker & Betsy Smith Children's Time: Betsy Smith
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette Ushers: Brenda Cavanaugh & Tracy Langworthy
Flowers: Jeff & Barbara Stimson

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Interim Choir Director: Dawn C. Wooderson, Ph.D.
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*

***Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 26, 2017***