

## 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 *Ivory Palaces* Arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad  
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

The psalmist tells us if we will but wait, God will whisper hope to us.

Do you believe this?

**We believe God's Word is not a pipe dream,  
but the river of love which flows forever!**

Paul reminds us that it is foolishness to think only of ourselves and our wants.

Do you believe this?

**We believe that when we pay attention to God,  
we will find joy, peace, love!**

Jesus calls us to walk in the light,

so that we will not continue to stumble over our sin.

Do you believe this?

**We believe he is the One who leads us out of Hopeless Valley  
into the kingdom of grace and life!**

Let us worship God.

\* HYMN *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing!* No. 466

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder

If God was intent on keeping score, we would end up losing every time. But God loves us so much, that we are invited to join in that game of grace which never comes to an end. With such hope for our lives, let us confess to God. Let us pray...

**Like the disciples, Holy One, we drag our feet when it comes to following you. You would have us face conflict, and we look the other way. You would lead us into those hopeless valleys where so many of your children live, and we would build homes on the mountaintops. You would bring all of us into your peace and reconciliation, but we stay entombed in our troubles and fears.**

**Forgive us, Creator of new lives. As Lazarus was brought forth from the grave, unbind every worry which keeps us from living as your children. As the Spirit led Jesus from the tomb into the joy of the Resurrection, fill us with the power to walk in the light of this hope. As Jesus offers us the life and resurrection we need, help us to believe the good news which comes from our Lord and Savior.**

*(A time for silent prayer)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. Jesus loved Lazarus so much, he brought him back from the grave. God loved Jesus so much, that he was raised to new life. See how much God loves us – loves you! -by forgiving and saving us.

**We thank you for hearing our prayers, Lord God, and for setting us free from everything which would bind us to sin and death. 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 Ezekiel 37:1-14 Pg. 829  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

GOSPEL READING John 11:1-45 Pgs. 99-100  
(selected verses)  
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Laura Sugg

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.***

ANTHEM *Dem Bones* Traditional Spiritual  
Children of WPC

SERMON ***Soul Boot Camp: Dead Ends*** Laura Sugg

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)  
Front of Hymnal Pg. 14 Elder

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Fairest Lord Jesus* Arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad  
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

**God of grace, you have gifted us with life in Christ.**

**Today we bring the gifts of our work and the gifts of our hearts.**

**May all that we bring and all that we are be your means of grace in the world,  
that all people may encounter your good news. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Prayer of Consecration

Serving Communion

*Bread is taken individually. Juice/wine is taken together; wine is in outer ring of tray.*

Prayer after Communion (unison)

**God of the wilderness journey,**

**thank you for giving us what we need for all the roads we travel.**

**For the bread that nourishes our spirits**

**and the cup that gladdens our hearts, we thank you.**

**As we meet others on the way,**

**may our lives and words,**

**by the power of your Spirit,**

**provide testimony to your gracious and faithful provision. Amen.**

\* HYMN

*Come Down, O Love Divine*

No. 313

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* 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

*Recessional March from "Athalia"* Felix Mendelssohn  
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, Piano Arr. By Carrie Adams

*Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.*

Pulpit Elder: Caroline Clovesko

Greeter: Jeff Stimson

Sound Engineer: Sean Mestdagh

Flowers: Pat Robbins

Communion Servers: Anne Baker, Jim Niquette, Nancy Rosi, Jeff Stimson

Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly

Ushers: Kerry Gardner & Chuck Miller

Children's Time: Don Tolin



*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*

***Fifth Sunday of Lent  
April 2, 2017***