

## 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 *Prelude* P.C. Hartung

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

You can trust God;

**in the moments of celebration, at the high points of life,  
God is there, God celebrates.**

You can trust God;

**in the dark moments, at the low points of life,  
God is there, God sustains.**

You can trust God;

**in the moments of doubt, when decisions fail you,  
God is there, God clarifies.**

You can trust God;

**in the certainty of faith, when you are inspired,  
God is there, God goes with you. Let us worship God!**

\* HYMN *Christ is Alive!* No. 108 vv. 1-4

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Responsive Elder

When we are caught up in our own importance,

**give us a vision of Peter, who was humbled in Pilate's courtyard.**

When we are lacking in self-confidence,

**give us a vision of the disciples in the Upper Room,  
revived when Jesus walked with them.**

When we will only see one point of view,

**give us a vision of Saul on the Damascus Road,  
encountering Jesus, whose followers he persecuted.**

When our loyalty wavers,

**give us the courage of Stephen,  
who knew Jesus with him when he was killed.**

*(A time for silent prayer)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. A change in attitude, a change in perspective, a change from inaction, are all possible for those touched by the risen Christ.

**We are ready for change!**

The pardon and peace of Christ are yours!

**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\* SUNG RESPONSE No. 108 v. 5

***Christ is alive, and comes to bring Good news to this and every age,  
Till earth and sky and ocean ring With joy, with justice, love, and praise.***

## HEARING THE WORD

EPISTLE READING 1 Peter 2:2-10 Pg. 223

The word of the Lord.

Deacon

**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM *High On the Rock I Stand* Dana Mengel

TIME WITH 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 *Living Stones* Laura Sugg

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)

Front of Hymnal Pg. 14

Elder

\* HYMN *O Christ, the Great Foundation* No. 443

\* PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Gavotte* A. Corelli

\*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING No. 113 v. 1

**"Christ the Lord is risen today!" Al—le—lu—ia!  
All creation, join to say; Al—le—lu—ia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Al—le—lu—ia!  
Sing, O heav'ns, and earth reply, Al—le—lu—ia!**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (responsive) Laura Sugg

We bring you our hope at this Easter season, O God,  
**that compassion will be encouraged, doubts faced,  
young persons will be supported, the challenged and distressed  
upheld, and the saving work of Jesus continued.**  
Bless these hope-filled gifts, O God, and enliven the spirit of our giving.  
**Amen.**

\* HYMN *For All the Saints* No. 526

\* CHARGE & BLESSING

\* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE No. 122 v. 1

***Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.  
Angels in bright raiment Rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded graveclothes where Thy body lay  
Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son;  
Endless is the victory Thou o'er death hast won.***

POSTLUDE *Judas Maccabaeus* G.F. Handel

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

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Pulpit Elder: Allan Hills	Deacon Reader: Linda Johnston
Greeter: Eleanor Fowler	Ushers: Donna Ellis & Jeff Stimson
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette	Children's Time: Laura Sugg
Flowers: Marny Eulberg	

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

*Fifth Sunday of Easter  
May 14, 2017*