

GATHERING FOR THE WORD

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

* *Please stand as you are able* Plain text = Leader **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *Praise to the Lord Almighty* Larry Shackley

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

We come together because we love God;

we love God, because God is there for us all the time.

God is there for us when we prayerfully reach out;

God is there for us when trouble hits unexpectedly.

It is not only these gathered people whom God loves;

God embraces the poor, the powerless, and the rejected;

and God is there for us when our confidence crumbles,

and when it seems that the whole world is against us.

Why God should care for us is beyond our understanding;

but God's gracious love has held us fast in the community of the

faithful, and will endure from age to age.

* HYMN *This is My Father's World* (see insert)

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

"Is anything too wonderful for God?"

That we might use the talents we have kept hidden,

and encourage the talents of others.

"Is there anything too wonderful for God?"

That we might affect the long sought reconciliation,

and face the deepest fear.

"Is there anything too wonderful for God?"

That our faith community might break from the groove of

past practice, and engage in creative new ventures.

"Is there anything too wonderful for God?"

That we might accept a faithful pattern of discipleship;

confronting the greedy, and inspiring the dispirited,

in the Jesus way.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Laura Sugg

You will surprise yourselves by what you can achieve
in God's strength!

**We are ready to trust God to strengthen us, and to lead us
into new and faithful ventures.**

Your past failures you can leave in the past; you will begin a new
chapter with the peace of God for you and with you.

Our discipleship will be breaking fresh ground.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE (Please stand as desired) *Glory to God Whose ...*

1. Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, 2. World without end, without end. Amen.
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, World without end, without end. Amen.
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. World without end, without end. Amen.
As it was in the be-gin-ning, As it was in the be-gin-ning,
is now and ever shall be. A-men. is now and ever shall be. A-men.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE Genesis 18:1-15 & 21:1-7 (see insert)
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

SPECIAL MUSIC *In My Father's House* Craig Courtney
WPC choir members

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 *Abraham Becomes a Father* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand as desired) (see insert)
The Apostle's Creed (traditional)

*HYMN *The God of Abraham Praise* (see insert)

MINUTE FOR MISSION: Presbytery Council of Mission & Ministry Greg Garner

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Something Good is About to Happen* William J. Gaither

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING *Spirit of the Living God* (see insert)
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me; (2X)
Melt me, mold me, Fill me, use me.
Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg
These gifts will be blessed as they are used to do God's work.
**Children will sing joyfully of God's creation,
those of advanced years will laugh and reminisce,
young moms and dads will get together,
and the addicted and lonely will find a place to share.**
The Bible will be opened to the curious,
and the tuneful will raise the roof with their singing.
God's "work," will not seem like work at all.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

* HYMN *The Lord Now Sends Us Forth* (see insert)
(Katie Sakanai sings once, then the congregation sings two more times)

* CLOSING RESPONSES

We go from here a hopeful people, for God goes with us.
**In times of trouble, God will support us;
in times of weakness, God will be our strength;
in times of doubt, God will give us direction;
in times of loneliness, God will touch us with the
friendship of others;
in times when we lack confidence, God will show us our worth;
in times of sadness, God will embrace us with love.**

Nothing can dash your hopes!
In the power and the love of God, Amen.

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

***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 *Give Me That Old Time Religion* arr. by H.T. Burleigh

Please come over to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.



*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*

June 18, 2017