

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 *I'd Like To Teach The World To Sing* Backer, Davis, Cook, Greenway

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

Here we can come together, people searching for healing and hope:

here we are met by the One who would bless us with abundant life.

Here we are called to gather as the family of God:

**we may find those who are strangers,
yet are sisters and brothers of ours.**

Here we discover the truth that God makes no distinctions among us:

**here we are welcomed and embraced
by the One whose arms are open to all. Amen.**

* HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory* (see insert)

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

Our words, our deeds, our lives build barriers between us and others,
between us and God. But God would shatter every divide, God would reshape
us as new people. Let us come to the One who loves all and longs to forgive all.
Join me as we confess together, saying,

**We admit, Providing God, that we have difficulties living as your
children. We could live in unity, but our words fracture relationships
with family and friends. When we could offer others the precious oil of
peace, we hand them the vinegar of despair and rejection.**

**Have mercy on us, Healing Heart, have mercy on us. When you call to
us, may we listen with open ears, understand with embracing hearts,
and share your grace with others, even as we have been graced by
Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. Hear the good news for you: God has provided hope for you,
filling you with joy, with mercy, with peace.

**As mercy leads to mercy, we will take these gifts to
share with the world. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

**Glory to God, Glory to God, Glory in the Highest
Glory to God, Glory to God, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia**

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Deacon

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** (see green insert)

SPECIAL MUSIC *I Lift My Voice* Andrea Ramsey

Annika Sovold, Naomi Sugg (see lyrics in green insert)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 15:21-28 Laura Sugg

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God. Amen.** (see green insert)

TIME WITH CHILDREN & YOUTH (*As children & youth come forward, please sing.*)

***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 *Facing Racism* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please stand)

**We believe that God is the one
who wishes to bring about justice
and true peace among people.**

**We believe that God,
in a world full of injustice and enmity,
is in a special way
the God of the destitute,
the poor, and the wronged.**

--Adapted from the Confession of Belhar

*HYMN *Let Us Build A House* (see insert verses 2, 4-5)

(Katie will sing verse 1, then congregation joins)

*PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (see green insert)

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *There'll Be Peace In The Valley For Me* Thomas A. Dorsey

*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 Laura Sugg

God of unending gifts,
we praise you for your abundant goodness.
As you are generous, we want to be generous too.

**May the gifts we bring
extend your generosity into the world,
so that all people may be made whole
by your goodness and grace. Amen.**

* HYMN O for a World (see insert)

* CHARGE & BLESSING Laura Sugg

* SUNG RESPONSE Let There Be Peace on Earth Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

**Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth; the peace that was meant to be.
With God as Creator fam'ly all are we.
Let me walk with my neighbor in perfect harmony.**

**Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With ev'ry step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me!**

POSTLUDE What The World Needs Now Is Love Hal David & Burt Bacharach

Please come over to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Sean Mestdagh
Greeter: Nancy Rosi
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette
Flowers: Bill & Karen Powers
Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly
Usher: Brenda Cavanaugh & Tracy Langworthy
Time with Children & Youth: Betsy Smith



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