

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 *How Majestic Is Your Name* Arr. Lyndell Leatherman

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Psalm 100:1, 2, 5

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness. Elder
Come into God's presence with singing!

**For the Lord is a gracious God, whose mercy is everlasting;
and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.**

Sisters and brothers, praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

Let us worship God.

* HYMN *All Creatures of Our God and King* No. 455 vv. 1-3

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

Let us pray,

**Eternal God, we confess our sins before you,
not to add to your knowledge but to bring to our remembrance
that which disturbs our communion with you
and limits our usefulness in your service.**

**We have been blind to those faults in ourselves
that we so easily detect in others;
pleading the complexity of life even when the way is clearly marked;
reflecting the prejudices of the age rather than the mind of Christ;
laboring and spending for that which does not satisfy.**

**Give us, O God, a sense of our sin and a trust in your mercy,
that we may move toward you in penitence and be made free to love,
for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting.

I declare to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**May the God of mercy, who forgives us all our sins,
strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit
keep us in eternal life. Amen.**

* SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) *Glory to God (Taizé)* (see 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

GOSPEL READING Matthew 18:21-35 Pg. 19

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Laura

ANTHEM *Forgive and You Will Be Forgiven* Collegetown Composers

EPISTLE READING Romans 14:1-8 Pg. 155

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

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 ***No Fair! (2) Forgiveness Math*** Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Elder

**In Christ, God's Word of acceptance takes flesh:
by grace through faith we are set right with God,
adopted as children of God,
not because of anything we have done,
but because of what Christ has done.**

**In Christ, God's Word of demand is lived out:
to love God and neighbor as Christ did
is what God requires of us.**

**The Spirit adds no different Word from God
but leads us deeper into the truth of God
uttered in Jesus Christ. Amen.**

—from A Declaration of Faith (1977)

* HYMN *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* No. 298

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

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *All Creatures of Our God and King* Franklin D. Ashdown

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING (see insert)]

***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 THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION (unison) Laura Sugg

God of grace:

**we give you thanks for every measure by which you have taught us your truth
and brought us to freedom.**

**For your word which speaks to us, your Spirit which renews us,
and your love which surrounds us, we give you thanks and praise.**

**Keep us in your grace, we pray, and enable us to render thanks
not only in word, but also in deed, that the worship of this day
might strengthen us to do your will on earth as it is in heaven; through Jesus
Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* No. 280

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* 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 *A Litany of Praise quoting Lobe Den Herren* Franklin D. Ashdown

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Jim Piperato
Greeter: Betty Niquette
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette
Flowers: Jim & Betty Piperato

Deacon Reader: Janette Powers
Ushers: Maxine Foster & Dick Remington
Time with Children: Linda Valo



*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*

September 17, 2017