

## 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 *A Mighty Fortress* Martin Luther  
Arr. Wilbur Held

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

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in  
Death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

*[from the Heidelberg Catechism]*

What is the chief end of humanity?

**Humanity's chief end is to glorify God and to enjoy God forever.**

*[from the Westminster Shorter Catechism]*

In life and in death we belong to God. Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, we trust in the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve.

**With believers in every time and place we rejoice that nothing in life or in  
death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

*[from A Brief Statement of Faith]*

\* HYMN *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* No. 260

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be Seated) Elder

Let us pray... *[adapted from the Belhar Confession]*

**We confess**

**that in a world full of injustice and enmity,  
we have not proclaimed enough that God is, in a special way,  
the God of the destitute, the poor, and the wronged;  
that God brings justice to the oppressed  
and gives bread to the hungry;  
that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;  
that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger,  
helps orphans and widows.**

**We confess**

**that we have not fully lived the calling that the church  
must witness against and strive against  
any form of injustice,  
so that justice may roll down like waters,  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity;

**We believe that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church  
to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life  
for society and the world.**

Friends, we believe:

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and restored to new life! Amen.**

\* SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing* No. 466 v 1 & 4

**1. O for a thousand tongues to sing, 4. My gracious Master and my God,**

**My dear Redeemer's praise,**

**Assist me to proclaim,**

**The glories of my God and King,**

**To spread through all the earth abroad**

**The triumphs of God's grace.**

**The honors of thy name.**

## HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 31:31-34 Pg. 755

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

Deacon

ANTHEM *The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune* Ralph Vaughn Williams

EPISTLE READINGS Romans 3:19-24; I Peter 2:2-10 Pg. 146 and 223

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

Laura Sugg

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 *21st Century Reformation* Laura Sugg

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *[adapted from the Belhar Confession]*

**Israel did not cease to be God's people, yet out of Israel a new people  
was formed. The Spirit came with power to the followers of Jesus. Led by  
the apostles they began to proclaim with boldness the new thing God had  
done in Christ. They began to experience in their fellowship a new quality of  
common life.**

**We believe that, by the power of the same Spirit, the church can be set on  
its way again, even when it seems beyond hope of renewal. We are grateful  
heirs of reformations and awakenings. We are faithful to the reformers of the  
past when we hold ourselves open in the present to the reforming and  
renewing work of the Spirit. Amen.**

\* HYMN *I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art* No. 457

MINUTE FOR STEWARDSHIP Nancy Rosi

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *Chanson* by Gliere  
Cheri Roberts, clarinet and Katie Sakanai, piano

\* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING Glory to God Whose Goodness Shines...

**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 beginning, As it was in the beginning,  
is now and ever shall be. Amen. is now and ever shall be. Amen.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

\* HYMN *Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!* No. 430  
(The congregation is invited to bring forward their pledge cards  
and place them in the basket.)

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE May the Lord Go with You

**May the Lord go with you as you leave this place,  
May the Lord go with you as you celebrate his grace.  
May you be surrounded by His love unbounded,  
May the Lord go with you as you leave this place.**

POSTLUDE *Toccata In D Minor* Johann Sebastian Bach

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

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Pulpit Elder: Allan Hills

Greeters: Dick & Charlene Pierce

Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette

Flowers: Janette Powers

Deacon Reader: Nancy Rosi

Ushers: Ralph & Marcia Hecox

Time with Children: Linda Valo

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*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*

**October 29, 2017**