

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 *Hymn of Thanksgiving, Netherlands Folksong* Arr. Martha Powell Setchell
Organ/Piano Duet, Betty Niquette, piano

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder
Give thanks and bless God's name; from Psalm 24
for God's steadfast love endures forever.
The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof,
The world and those who dwell therein.
Sisters and brothers, praise the Lord!
The Lord's name be praised!

* HYMN *For the Beauty of the Earth* No. 473

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder
Let us pray,
**Most gracious God,
you cover the earth with your bounty
and entrust its riches to our care,
but we have been unfaithful to your trust.
We have laid waste the earth and exploited the land.
Those who have much have wanted more,
while multitudes go hungry and the poor lose hope.
Set us free, we pray, both from greed and from want,
that all may live in justice and well being.
May our lives be enlisted toward this end,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg
Amen. Who is in a position to condemn?
Only Christ and Christ died for us,
Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us.
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Friends, believe the Good News.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) No. 481 v 3

***Praise the Lord, great mercies trace, Alleluia!
Praise this providence & grace, Alleluia!
All that God for us has done, Alleluia!
All God sends us through the Son. Alleluia!***

HEARING THE WORD

FIRST PSALM READING Psalm 95 1-7a Pgs. 559-560
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Deacon

ANTHEM *Prayer of Thanksgiving* Traditional Dutch folk song
Arr. Reigger

SECOND PSALM READING Psalm 36: 5-11 Pg. 516
The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** Laura

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 *Big Love* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Elder
**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the
Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not
alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

--from the Iona Community in Scotland

* HYMN *God of the Sparrow* No. 272

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *For the Beauty of the Earth* Conrad Kocher
Ridge Ringers Arr. Kevin McChesney

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING Tune: Faithfulness GTG No. 276
Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (responsive) Laura
O God, you give us the morning sun and the evening star:
We have gathered to thank you.
O God, in you we live and move and have our being:
We have gathered to praise you.
O God, you bring us out of wilderness experiences into the Promised Land.
O God, we praise your name.
God of Grace, Giver of Gifts,
bless us we pray as we seek to respond to your gift of Jesus Christ.
In Christ's name we thank you. Amen.

* HYMN *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought* No. 414
(Bring forward fruits and vegetables to the Communion Table)

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* 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 *Now Thank We All Our God* Sigfrid Karg-Elert
Organ/Piano duet, Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Mary Charlotte & Louis Ball

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

Pulpit Elder: Caroline Clovesko Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly
Greeter: Bill and Jackie Trefz Ushers: Bill & Karen Powers
Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette **Time with Children: Roxanne Foster**



*I do, therefore invite my fellow citizens . . .
to set apart and observe the last Thursday
of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving
and Praise to our beneficent Father
who dwelleth in the Heavens.*

—Abraham Lincoln, 3 Oct. 1863

*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*

November 19, 2017