

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 *Great is the Lord* Michael and Deborah Smith
Organ/Piano Duet Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Tedd Smith and Don Hustad

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!

Amen!

In the days to come the Lamb at the center of the throne
will be our shepherd and will guide us to springs of the water of life,
and God will wipe away every tear from our eyes.

Amen and amen!

* HYMN *When Morning Gilds the Skies* No. 487

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Elder

Let us pray,

Eternal God,

in every age you have raised up men and women to live and die in faith.

We confess that we are indifferent to your will.

You call us to proclaim your name, but we are silent.

You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle.

You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid.

In your mercy, forgive us. Give us courage to follow in your way,

that, joined with those from ages past,

who have served you with faith, hope, and love,

we may inherit the kingdom you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

As one who is with you in the household of faith,

I declare to you that you are forgiven sinners.

As those who are with you in the household of faith,

we declare to you that you are a forgiven sinner.

Praise God, who freely forgives all who turn to Christ. **Amen.**

* SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) *Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show* No. 481 v 1

Praise the Lord, God's glories show, Alleluia!

Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!

Angels round the throne above, Alleluia!

All that see and share God's love, Alleluia!

HEARING THE WORD

NEW TESTAMENT READING Revelation 7:9-17 Pg. 239

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

ANTHEM *Beautiful Savior* Traditional Hymn
Arr. Wallingford Riegger

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 *Now and Then* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Elder

We believe that at the Lord's supper the community of believers is renewed

by the memory of Christ's life and death,

by his real presence in the power of the Holy Spirit,

and by the promise of his coming again.

Christ makes himself known to us in the breaking of bread.

He offers us his body broken for our sake

and his blood shed for the forgiveness of our sins.

We accept his promises and gifts and depend on his life to sustain ours.

In turn we offer ourselves in thanksgiving

to the risen Lord who has conquered death.

So we celebrate his victory here and now

and anticipate the joyous feast in his coming kingdom.

Reunited around one loaf and cup, we receive strength and courage

to continue our pilgrimage with God in the world." Amen.

--from A Declaration of Faith (1977)

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

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

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *This is My Father's World* Franklin L. Sheppard

Organ/Piano Duet Betty Niquette, piano Arr. Tedd Smith and Don Hustad

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING *Praise God from Whom All...* Tune: All Creatures of Our God and King

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.

Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, (2x)

Praise God, in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, (5x)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Laura Sugg

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Laura Sugg

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and our greatest joy . . .

Words of Institution

Serving Communion

*Bread is taken individually. **Wait** to take juice/wine together.*

Red wine is in outer ring of tray; white grape juice is in the inner ring of tray.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Remembrance (responsive)

Laura

God of the ages, we praise you for all your servants,
who have done justice, loved mercy, and walked humbly with their God.

**For apostles and martyrs and saints,
who in life and death have witnessed to your truth.**

For servants who have witnessed bravely and died in faith,
who still are shining lights in the world,

**For those we have known and loved,
whom we remember now in your presence . . .**

*Here the leader will read the names of those from our congregation
who have died in the past year.*

Others are invited to offer names also to be remembered.

Keep us grateful for their witness,
and, like them, eager to follow in the way of Christ.

**And at the last, bring us with them to share eternal life,
through Jesus Christ, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit
one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

* HYMN

For All the Saints

No. 526

* CHARGE & BLESSING

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

***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

How Excellent is Thy Name
Organ/Piano duet, Betty Niquette, piano

Dick Tunney

Arr. Tedd Smith and Don Hustad



*And "all the company of heaven" means everybody
we ever loved and lost, including the ones we didn't know
we loved until we lost them or didn't love at all. It means
people we never heard of. It means everybody who ever did—
or at some unimaginable time in the future ever will—
come together at something like this table in search
of something like what is offered at it.*

*Whatever other reasons we have for coming to such a place,
if we come also to give each other our love and to give God
our love, then together with Gabriel and Michael,
and the fat parson, and Sebastian pierced with arrows,
and the old lady whose teeth don't fit, and Teresa in her
ecstasy, we are the communion of saints.*

—Frederick Buechner, *Beyond Words*

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 5, 2017

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.