

## **GATHERING FOR THE WORD**

Let us take this time to quiet our hearts and minds and prepare for worship.

\* Please stand if able • Plain text = Leader • **Bold text = People**

PRELUDE *My Lord, What A Morning* Spiritual

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

\* ENERGIZER for ALL *Revolution* Kirk Franklin  
Vacation Bible School students (see words in announcements)

\* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder  
We worship the God who inhabits our world and indwells our lives.  
We need not look up to find God, we need only look around:  
**within ourselves, beyond ourselves, into the eyes of another.**  
We need not listen for distant thunder to find God,  
**we need only listen to the music of life, the words of children,**  
**the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.**  
**We worship the God who inhabits our world**  
**and who indwells our lives. Amen.**

\* HYMN *Gather Us In* STF No. 2236 vv. 1, 2, &4 (see insert)

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

Beloved, confession before God and one another reminds us that, as individual believers and as a community of faith, we stray or turn from the ways of love and justice. We believe that when people confess, God will forgive and free them from the burden of guilt and empower them to carry on the ministry of Christ. Therefore, with confidence in the mercy of God, let us pray together.

**So often, God of wholeness, we are a torn people. We set ourselves apart based on differences, distinctions, judgments, and opinions. We tear ourselves from within as we strive for independence and unique individuality. We do not recognize our common longings for peace, for healing and deep meaning within life.**

**Through the heart of Christ, you come to us in reassuring love. The power of your Spirit blesses our living with hope and feeds us in joy. In the unity of that Spirit we draw together to sing and pray as your own dear renewed children. Refresh us now as we open who we are to who we may yet become. Amen.**

*(A time for silent prayer)*

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. God sent Jesus not to judge us, but to save us.  
God accepts both our courage and our fears.  
In the name of Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Dare to accept the gift of a new beginning.  
**We do. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired) (for music see yellow insert)

***Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,  
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,  
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.***

## **HEARING THE WORD**

EPISTLE READING Romans 12:1-9 Deacon  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Judges 14-16 (selected verses)  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SPECIAL MUSIC ***Everlasting God*** words & music by Chris Tomlin  
Vacation Bible School participants

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 ***The Gospel According to Marvel's Avengers*** Laura Sugg

## **RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please stand) Elder  
**The diversity in the early church  
caused tension and conflict.  
Yet the Spirit bound them into one body,  
enriched by their differences.  
We know that the same Spirit gives us a unity  
we cannot create or destroy.  
The Spirit moves among us  
not to end diversity or compel uniformity,  
but to overcome divisiveness and bitterness.  
The Spirit leads us to struggle against  
the lines of race and class,  
the ambitions of competing parties,  
the loyalties to individuals and traditions,  
that divide us.**

--adapted from *A Declaration of Faith* (1977)

\* HYMN *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* No. 438 (see insert)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER (see words to the Lord's Prayer below)  
**Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name, Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread; And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

OFFERTORY *I Feel Like Something Good Is About To Happen* William J. Gaither

\*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING Tune: All Creatures of Our God and King  
***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.*** (for music see yellow insert)  
***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

\* HYMN *Guide My Feet* No. 354 (see insert)

\* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

\* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Tune: STF 2223  
***We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord,*** (for music see yellow insert)  
***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 *He Is The Way* Arr. Fred Bock

*Many thanks to the Vacation Bible School students and their leaders  
for sharing their musical talents this morning!*

*Please come to Fellowship Hall and join us for a Church Picnic*

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Pulpit Elder: Jo Ann Flores      Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly  
Greeter: Lori Golightly      Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette  
Flowers: Jeff & Barbara Stimson      Time With Children & Youth: Laura Sugg  
Ushers: Brenda Cavanaugh & Alice Datema      Visitor Desk: Ariane Meyer

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**Wheat Ridge Presbyterian Church**

9180 W. 38<sup>th</sup> Avenue Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 • 303-422-2354

[Jenny@WRPres.org](mailto:Jenny@WRPres.org) • [www.wpcpres.org](http://www.wpcpres.org)

Pastor: Laura S. Sugg, M.Div., Ph.D. • [Laura@WRPres.org](mailto:Laura@WRPres.org) Cell: 720-471-0751

Director of Christian Education, Children & Youth: Linda Valo

Organist, Hand Bell Choir Director: Julie Pulliam, M.A.

Choir Director: Katie Sakanai, M.M.Ed.

Treasurer: Eileen Gardner, C.P.A. • Assistant Treasurer: Betsy Smith

Administrative Assistant: Jenny Garner



*The Gospel According to  
Marvel's Avengers*

*July 22, 2018*