

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 In Christ Alone Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
Arr. By Lyndell Leatherman

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Elder

Let us worship God together. Let us sing to the Lord a new song;

A song for and with all creatures of the earth.

Let us rejoice in what God has created. It is good!

Let us marvel at the creatures that are wonderful in God's sight.

Let us extol God's handiwork.

Lord, help us to wonder and to stand in awe at the richness
of the world before us.

Every creature gives you praise.

* HYMN *All Creatures of Our God and King* No. 455

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Please be seated) Elder

We are created in the goodness of God, but we often forget our preciousness.

Let us open our hearts in prayer, trusting in the love of God to lead us into
new life. Let us pray...

**Creator of the stars and the tiniest flower, we long to remember
the goodness of the Earth, our bodies, our human family. When our
hearts break or are made numb by our failures or our neighbor's,
awaken our spirits so that we can love and act in the world. Anchor us
in your heart so that we can reflect your love to all people, even those
we might reject or fear.**

**Trusting your heart of love, we say, "Yes" and commit to letting it
transform our living.**

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. With gentleness, God speaks to us;

with graciousness, God forgives us;

with joy, God embraces us.

With our lips, we praise God;

with our words, we thank God;

with our silence, we find God in our hearts.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired)

No. 341 v.2 and refrain

(Blessed Assurance)

Perfect submission, perfect delight. Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;

Angels, descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long;

This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Genesis 1-2:3 (selected verses)

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

Laura

SPECIAL MUSIC *Nothing Left to Say* Joseph M. Martin & David Angermann

Tony Domenick, soloist

PSALM READING Psalm 33: 1-9, 20-22 Pgs. 513-514

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 ***The Big Picture: The Bible in 11 Stories (1)*** Laura Sugg

God Calls Creation Good

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand) Elder

**God created all the worlds that are
and upholds and rules everything.**

We affirm that the universe exists

by the power of God's Word and Spirit.

God has chosen to give it reality

out of the love we have come to know in Christ.

God still works through the processes that shape

and change the earth and the living things upon it.

We acknowledge God's care and control

in the regularity of the universe

as well as in apparently random happenings.

There is no event from which God is absent

and God's ultimate purpose in all events is just and loving.

That purpose embraces our choices

and will surely be accomplished.

The Creator works in all things

toward the new creation that is promised in Christ.

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

* HYMN *Great Is Thy Faithfulness* No. 276
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER Front of Hymnal Pg. 16
(Pray, "Forgive us our sins...")
WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING
OFFERTORY *More Love to Thee* Arr. Mark Hayes & Douglas E. Wagner
* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING *Doxology* No. 591/2
* PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison) Laura Sugg
* HYMN *God of the Sparrow* No. 272
* CHARGE AND BENEDICTION
* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE STF No.2241 v.1 & 4
(The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve)

- 1. The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name
To bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.**
- 4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.**

POSTLUDE *The Brightest Trumpet* Franklin Ritter

Please come through to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

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Administrative Assistant: *Jenny Garner*



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 30, 2018