

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 *Arabian Dance* Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Nic Friedman, piano

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand) Luke Friedman

To a society that lives in the shadowed recesses of doubt and fear,

God calls us to be light.

To a world where every appetite is fed until there is no taste to life,

God calls us to be salt.

To a time when loyalties are discarded as easily as the clothes we wear,

God calls us to be faithful.

Let us worship God.

* HYMN *God of the Sparrow* No. 272

PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated) Nic Friedman

It is so simple - make a sandwich for the hungry, open our ears to the crying child, and work to change unjust laws. These are how we are called to worship God.

Let us confess how we have not answered this call, as we pray saying,

We admit, Holy One, how in superstition, we will throw salt over our shoulders but find it hard to flavor a world made bland by the distractions. We dim our gifts to save our energy instead of shining as long as we can in society's shadowed corners. We skip dessert now and then to show our faith but are unable to see those who go through the dumpster to feed their children.

Forgive us, and have mercy, Creation's Goodness. By your grace, heal our brokenness, so we might work with you to fix the shattered dreams of our world. With your hope, strengthen our hearts, so we might join you to fill the emptiness of our society. This we ask in the wonderful name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE Laura Sugg

Amen. God has heard our prayers and comes to us to sweeten our bitterness with hope—to shatter our darkness with the light of mercy.

We will share this good news without being ordered to do so.

We will praise God's name because we want to!

Thanks be to God!. Amen.

* SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired.) No. 298 v. 1

There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea;

There's a kindness in God's justice, Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows, Are more felt than up in heaven;

There is no place where earth's failings Have such kindly judgement given.

HEARING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 58:1-12 Pgs.704-705

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

Luke Friedman

ANTHEM *Rainbow* Kacey Musgraves

Singers, Anna Johnston, Chloe Kramer, Alice Roberts, Annika Sovold

GOSPEL READING Matthew 5:13-16 Pg. 4

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

TIME WITH PARENTS (and children)

(As the children and youth / parents come forward, please join in singing.)

This, this is where parents belong, part of our family, part of our song.

Be with us, pray with us, help us grow strong, this is where parents belong.

SERMON *Becoming Salt and Light* Laura Sugg

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Please Stand)

We believe in God above us, maker and sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of male and female.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor, tortured and nailed to a tree.

A man of sorrows, he died forsaken.

He descended into the earth to the place of death.

On the third day he rose from the tomb.

He ascended into heaven, to be everywhere present,

and His kingdom will come on earth.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the Church, Spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and of eternal life. Amen.

—from the Iona Community in Scotland (1988)

* HYMN *Seek Ye First* No. 333

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

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

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Isaiah 58:11

Like a spring whose waters never fail,
God calls us to share what we have received.
Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY

Sonata K 545 Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart
Luke Friedman, piano

* PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

***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.***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

Let us pray...

**Loving God, we give thanks for all you have given to us
and praise you for your astounding goodness.
Receive the dedication of our hearts, minds, and bodies
for the ministry of your church.
Bless our offering for the work of your beloved community,
and give us wisdom for the right use of all you have provided,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love vv. 1-3 STF No. 2223

* CHARGE & BENEDICTION

* SUNG CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE Traditional Spiritual

***This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3X)
Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!***

POSTLUDE

Écossaise Johann Nepomuk Hummel
Nic Friedman, piano

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*WRPC 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.*

***Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
Youth Sunday
February 9, 2020***