

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

Centennial State Pipes and Drums

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Dr. Laura S. Sugg

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Please stand)

Elder

God has called us to this place. What do you see?

We see people who model for us God's joyous embrace of all people.

God has brought us to this place. What do you hear?

We hear God's hope that we are able to see

each person as our sister or brother.

God has challenged us to open our lives and hearts to others. What will you do?

We will do only one thing: welcome everyone in God's name!

* HYMN

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

No. 288 (see insert)

CALL TO PRAYER & PRAYER FOR RENEWAL (Be seated)

Elder

They are there in the Bible: men and women who are as weak, as foolish, as prone to sin as we are. Every page, every story reveals to us our brokenness. Yet every page, every story tells us of the One who longs to make us whole. Let us confess our shadows, and clear the way for God's reconciling love to work within us, Please join me, as we pray,

In the mirror we call scripture, Revealing God, we see ourselves for who we are and are not. We whine about those who are not doing what we think they should, but ignore our failings. We speak words which nibble away at the life in our family and friends. We step over the poor on our way to get more and more, ignoring their needs.

Forgive us, Reconciling Love. Sit us down at Jesus' feet, so we may learn the balanced life you intend for us. Then, and only then, we can set aside our grudges, to offer our gifts to our neighbors; we can stop licking at our hurts, to bring healing to others; we can reach out and welcome our sisters and brothers, even as we have been welcomed into your heart through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.

(A time for silent prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

Laura Sugg

Amen. Christ Jesus comes to reconcile us to God, so we can be reconciled to one another. Recreated in God's image, we are made whole.

When we are in Christ, everything becomes new. Our past is just that - our past!

Do you really believe this - that your past is done, and you are a new person?

If so, go out and reflect it in your life.

Praise God! We will go forth and live as reconciled people. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE (Stand as desired)

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

GOSPEL READING

Luke 10:38-42

Deacon

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

SPECIAL MUSIC

Centennial State Pipes and Drums

EPISTLE READING

I Cor. 9:17-23

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

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 Otters, Beavers, and Magpies

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

All Things Bright and Beautiful

No. 267 (see insert)

(Katie will sing refrain and v. 1 and congregation will join for the rest)

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

Centennial State Pipes and Drums

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

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. (need music? see 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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

No. 403 (see insert)

* CHARGE & BLESSING

* SUNG RESPONSE

The Trees of the Field

from Isaiah 55:12

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace; (need music? see insert)

The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;

***there'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field will clap,
will clap their hands.***

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,

the trees of the field will clap their hands,

the trees of the field will clap their hands

while you go out with joy.

POSTLUDE

Centennial State Pipes and Drums

Please come to Fellowship Hall for refreshments and conversation.

*Many thanks to Centennial State Pipes and Drums
for sharing their musical talents this morning!*

Pulpit Elder: Jo Ann Flores

Greeter: Lori Golightly

Ushers: Bill & Karen Powers

Flowers: John & Roxanne Foster

Deacon Reader: Lori Golightly

Sound Engineer: Jim Niquette

Time With Children & Youth: Betsy Smith

Visitor Desk: Ariane Meyer

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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*



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.*

July 15, 2018