

GOD'S PEOPLE GATHER

September 1, 2019

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Spiritual identity means we are not what we do or what people say about us. And we are not what we have. We are the beloved daughters and sons of God.

~Henri Nouwen

PRELUDE

Prelude I, from Well Tempered Clavier

J. S. Bach
Don Smith

WELCOME AND LIFE IN THE CHURCH

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is making a new covenant with us,

People: A covenant written on our hearts instead of stone.

Leader: God is doing something new in us,

People: Our very lives are a temple of God's spirit.

Leader: God is doing something new in our world,

People: We have the promise of God's presence and power.

Leader: God is making all things new;

People: Let us worship our God, who is with us now.

*HYMN

Open My Eyes, That I May See

GG: 451

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Holy God, you call us to leave our old ways behind, but we like our comfortable lives. You call us to go where you will show us, but we want the map and directions before we leave. You call us to be a blessing to all, but often we want to keep the blessing for ourselves. Help us to hear your voice and to let go of what holds us back. Lead us to walk your way on the road to resurrection.

(A moment for silent examination and confession.)

Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God knows the hearts of those who seek forgiveness. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

People: We rejoice for God's grace poured out for us, for the covenant that holds us close to God's heart.

*RESPONSE

Goodness Is Stronger than Evil

GG: 750

**All: Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.
Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: Hear the teaching of Christ: A new command I give you, that you love one another as I have loved you. The peace of Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

HEARING THE WORD

ANTHEM

All Good Gifts

Stephen Schwartz
Owen Trawick

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

*HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

GG:423

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 1:1-10, pg. 191

SCRIPTURE: Jeremiah 31:31-34, pg. 735

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Written on Our Hearts”

Rev. Abbie Huff

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Beautiful City

Stephen Schwartz
Owen Trawick

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* tune GG: 606

**All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

**All: 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 debts as we forgive
our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For
Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen**

GOING OUT INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

GG: 65

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Juba, from In the Bottoms

R. Nathaniel Dett
Don Smith

*All who are able please stand. ***Latecomers seated.