

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 a.m.

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 17, 2017

“How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God.” Psalm 84:1-2

PRELUDE Voluntary, Opus 5 No.1 John Stanley

INTROIT When Two or Three are Gathered Here Anne McNair

BAGPIPE FANFARE Highland Cathedral

***CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF ADORATION**

***HYMN** No. 305 *Tune:* DARWALL'S 148TH
Come Sing, O Church, In Joy!

CONFESSION OF SIN

Almighty and Everlasting God, on whom we rely for life and its meaning, we confess that we have sinned against you by failing to hear and accept your promises, by taking for granted your blessings, by relying on ourselves to be both the source and object of our own faith. Forgive us we pray, and once more open our hearts to your mercy, our minds to your promises, and our hands to our neighbors in need. Grant that we would see the wonder of your love and cry once more with all our hearts, “Serve the Lord with gladness.” Send us out with firmer purpose and high resolve, with penitence and power; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE No. 551
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

***HYMN OF PRAISE** No. 316
Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
brought here together by Christ's love, by love we thus are bound.

***WORDS OF PEACE**

Minister: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: Peace be with you.
(Please greet your neighbors with words of God's peace.)

WELCOME AND CONCERNS OF THE CHURCH

(Please sign and pass the Friendship Registers at this time.)

INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN

Commissioning of Sunday School Faculty and Youth Fellowship Advisors

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, come to us, each one, with the particular and personal word that each needs to hear; that we may experience your blessing and serve you with joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Exodus 12:1-14 Page 58

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Matthew 18:15-20 Page 20

SERMON "Where Two or Three Are Gathered" Dr. Williams
"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." Matthew 18:20

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** A Declaration of Faith, 1977

The church is founded on Jesus Christ. Gathered around the Word and sacraments, those who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, together with their children, have formed a corporate, visible body in pilgrimage with God across the centuries. Christ is the head of the church, therefore we are responsible to Christ when we make policy and decisions in the church. Christ is the foundation of the church, therefore it will not fall despite our weakness. We are confident that the Lord of the church will judge and defeat our sinful intentions and actions, help us in our weakness and blindness, and use the church to accomplish his purpose. Amen.

***HYMN** No. 306 *Tune: DENNIS*
Blest Be the Tie That Binds

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

**Presentation and Profession
Charge and Prayer**

THE PRAYERS

OFFERING

OFFERTORY If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee Jody Lindh
Chancel Choir

If thou but suffer God to guide thee, and hope in Him through all thy ways,
He'll give thee strength whate'er beside thee, and bear thee through the evil days;
Who trusts in God's unchanging love, builds on the rock that naught can move.

Only be still and wait His leisure in cheerful hope, with heart content.
To take whate'er thy Father's pleasure, and all discerning love hath sent.
Nor doubt our inmost wants are known to Him, who chose us for His own.
Sing, pray, and keep His ways unswerving, in all thy labor faithful be.
And trust His Word, though undeserving, thou yet shalt find it true for thee.
God never yet forsook in need, the soul that trusts in Him indeed.

***DOXOLOGY**

No. 606

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER** (debts/debtors)

***HYMN**

No. 310

Tune: ST. THOMAS

I Love Thy Kingdom Lord

***BENEDICTION AND CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE**

No. 529

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in your name two or three are met together,
you are in the midst of them. Alleluia! Alleluia! Here we touch your garment's hem.

***BAGPIPE RECESSIONAL**

Amazing Grace

*Congregation please stand.