

We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

When passing the bread to your neighbor say, "The body of Christ, broken for you."
When passing the cup to your neighbor say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you."
We will hold each element until all are served and then partake together.

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #353 "Grace Greater than Our Sin"

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #393 "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

words by Longfellow and Music by Marks

WELCOME VISITOR! We are delighted that you are here to share worship of our Lord Jesus this morning together with the rest of us. We want you to be well informed about the Christian faith and about the church so don't be afraid to ask. You may communicate with us in several ways. Ask a neighbor in your pew, fill out a blue first-time visitor card, add your name to the Ritual of Friendship pad and by all means do not hesitate to contact our pastor. May God bless you this morning and throughout the week.

Rev. Susan Bennett, Pastor
Dorothy Clark, Organist
Glory Cumbow, Youth Director
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery Attendants: Suzie Wharton & Breon Williams

Stockbridge Presbyterian

Church

January 1, 2017
11:00 am



Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

*Because he himself was tested by what he suffered,
he is able to help those who are being tested.*
Hebrews 2:18

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

*(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.
Otherwise, Susan will turn into her evil twin and give you The Look.)*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY "Still Ringing Through the Cosmos" arr. Gailey

Ward Gailey

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Aaron Roberts

Please use this time for silent meditation and preparation for worship. Prayer cards are in the pew rack in front of you for submission to church prayer list.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

*Those who are able, please stand.

*CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #2 "O Worship the King"

**O worship the King, all glorious above, O gratefully sing his power and his love;
our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 148)

Liturgist: Aaron Roberts

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!

All: Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted;

All: His glory is above earth and heaven.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #48 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us when we complain about our problems, our situation, our lives. Forgive us when we compare ourselves with others and feel deprived and envious. Help us to find contentment in being your beloved children, and in the grace and blessings you offer us every single day. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 8:1-2)

Leader: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set us free from the law of sin and of death. Friends, rejoice again in God's amazing grace:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI

GLORIA

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Dunn

(Children will be dismissed to Children's Worship following the anthem.)

ANTHEM "Now the Silence" Carl Schalk

Ward Gailey, soloist

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Isaiah 63:7-9

Page 652, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Hebrews 2:10-18

Page 205, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Tidings of Comfort and Joy"

Rev. Susan Bennett

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Linda Roberts

*DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.