

CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

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 #264 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #554 "We Have Heard the Joyful Sound"

We have heard the joyful sound; Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Spread the tidings all around: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

Bear the news to every land, climb the steeps and cross the waves;

Onward! 'tis our Lord's command: Jesus saves! Jesus saves!

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "Drawn to the Cross"

Gottlieb Muffat



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
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

Ward Gailey, Music Director
Linda Hodges, Office Manager
Nursery Attendants: Suzie Wharton and Allie Dunn

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

March 4, 2018

11:00 a.m.



Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

*For the message about the cross is foolishness
to those who are perishing, but to us who are being
saved it is the power of God.*

1 Corinthians 1:18

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence and refrain from using all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

OPENING VOLUNTARY "A Lamb Goes Uncomplaining Forth"

Johann Pachelbel

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Jim Beisner

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 #251 "I Come to the Cross"

I come to the cross seeking mercy and grace;

I come to the cross where you died in my place.

Out of my weakness and into your strength; humbly I come to the cross.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 19)

Liturgist: Jim Beisner

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

All: The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

All: Let the words of all our mouths, and the meditation of all our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #699 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us when we dwell so much on our own human knowledge that we forget the fundamental truth of your saving grace. Forgive us when we stay on the surface of life without you, and do not seek your Word and your Spirit. Help us to remember the depth of your love for us, and your call to draw closer to you. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (from 1 Corinthians 1:30)

Leader: Scripture tells us that Christ will strengthen us to the end, so that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Friends, give thanks again for the great good news of the kingdom of God:

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

Monica Coutin-Baxter

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

ANTHEM "Ave Verum" W.A. Mozart

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING Psalm 19:1-4, 7-10, 14

Page 472, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

Page 155, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "This Doesn't Make Sense!"

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 "Aria" (from Three Meditations)

Theodore W. Ripper

*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