

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.

#### 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 #322 "A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!" (verses 1, 2, 3 only)

\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #326 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"

**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free;**

**Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.**

\*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "Our Christ Ascends"

Todd Kendall



**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  
Stephanie Dunn, Youth Director  
Tom Francis, Custodian Emeritus

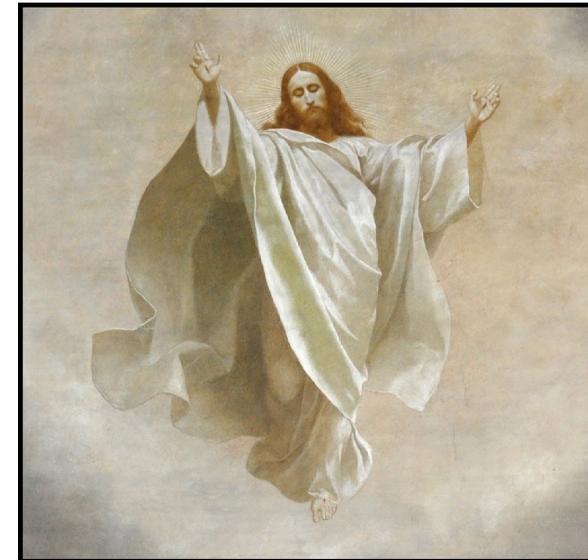
Ward Gailey, Music Director  
Linda Hodges, Office Manager  
Nursery Attendants: Megan Bennett and  
Stephanie Phillips

# Stockbridge Presbyterian

## Church

May 1, 2016

11:00 am



## Celebrating the Sacrament Of Communion

*When Jesus had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.*

*Acts 1:9*

## 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 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Acolyte: Sydney Holloway

J. Wayne Kerr

#### PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Tracey Clipper

**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 #332 "Let Every Christian Pray"

**Let every Christian pray, this day and every day, come, Holy Spirit, come!  
Was not the church we love commissioned from above? Come, Holy Spirit come!**

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 67)

Liturgist: Terry Holmes

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us.

**All: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for God judges the people with equity and guides the nations upon earth.**

Leader: Let us praise the Lord; let all the peoples praise him.

**All: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.**

**All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!**

#### \*HYMN OF PRAISE #60 "I Will Sing of the Mercies"

### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Gracious God, we know that you are with us, through your Spirit, every moment of our lives. Forgive us when we doubt that. Forgive us when we give in to dark thoughts and feelings, when we feel abandoned and unloved. Help us to trust you fully, knowing that you never leave us alone or comfortless. Please hear us now as we continue our confession in silence ...**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 3:23-24)

Leader: All of us have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; we are now justified by God's grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. Friends, give thanks again for the great good news of the gospel:

**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

#### ANTHEM "The Lone Wild Bird" Southern Folk, arr. D. Johnson

Jeffrey Cochran, tenor; Arlene Lathrop, oboe

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

Sanctuary Choir

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### FIRST READING Luke 24:44-53

Page 85, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SECOND READING Acts 1:1-11

Page 110, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON "Up"

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 "Meditation"

Douglas E. Wagner

#### \*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.**