

MINISTRY OF GIVING

OFFERTORY "I Come, My Lord, and Seek Thee Now"

Johann Pachelbel

*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 AND 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.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

*HYMN OF SENDING #519 "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand"

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #102 "His Name Is Wonderful"

**His Name is Wonderful, his name is Wonderful, his name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord;
He is the mighty King, Master of everything, his name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.
He's the great Shepherd, the Rock of all ages, Almighty God is he; bow down before him,
love and adore him, his name is Wonderful, Jesus, my Lord.**

*CLOSING VOLUNTARY "What a Wonderful Savior"

Elisha A. Hoffman



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: Suzie Wharton & Breon Williams

Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

May 21, 2017
11:00 a.m.



Graduate Sunday

*But truly God has listened;
he has given heed to the words of my prayer.
Psalm 66:19*

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 "As the Deer"

Martin Nystrom, arr. Carl Seal

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

Beadle: Stephanie Phillips Ayoola

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 #87 "Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

Praise yet our Christ again, Alleluia! Amen!

**Life shall not end the strain; Alleluia, Amen! On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
Singing forevermore, Alleluia, Amen!**

*CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 66)

Liturgist: Paul Szeto

Leader: Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard.

All: He has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

Leader: Blessed be God, because he has not rejected our prayer.

All: He keeps his steadfast love with us.

All: Hallelujah! Let us worship God!

*HYMN OF PRAISE #595 "They'll Know We Are Christians"

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Gracious God, forgive us when our fears overwhelm us, and we doubt your goodness. Forgive our moments of resentment or bitterness, when our hearts are dark and we do not understand. Remind us of your deep love and care for us, and help us to trust you always. Please continue to hear us as we confess now in silence ...

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Romans 5: 1-2a)

Leader: Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand. 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

*HYMN OF CONSECRATION #471 "As the Deer"

HONORING OUR GRADUATES

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stephanie Dunn

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

ANTHEM "In Christ Alone" (Medley) arr. B. Harlan

Sanctuary Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST READING 1 Peter 3:13-22

Page 220, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Psalm 66:8-20

Page 500, Pew Bible

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Glorifying Suffering?"

Glory Cumbow

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.