

OUR COMMUNITY GATHERS

MARCH 31, 2019

THE GATHERING

THE PRELUDE *O God Thou Faithful God* J. Brahms

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF CHURCH LIFE

INTROIT *It's Me, O Lord, Standing in the Need of Prayer* Spiritual

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(2 Corinthians 5:16-18)*

Leader: From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view.

**People: Even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view,
we know God no longer in that way.**

Leader: So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation.

People: Everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

Leader: All this is from God, who reconciled us through Christ

People: God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

***HYMN 464** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

***THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

O God, who never stops seeking us, we journey to seek you this Lent.

We hope to turn away from all those things which have harmed us and others; to separate ourselves from actions and attitudes that demean and destroy. But it is far too easy for us to sink into self-pity and self-serving attitudes.

We want comfort and peace. Yet our lives are filled with stress and discontent. We hurt, Lord. We hurt in our bodies, in our souls, in our relationships with others.

But we don't want to be like this. We want to feel the warmth of your love, the freedom of your spirit, the joy of serving you, the experience of reconciliation.

Through your love, O God, and drawing on the deep desires of our hearts, forgive us, strengthen us and heal us, in Jesus' Name. AMEN

***THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(Romans 8:34, 2 Corinthians 5:17)*

Leader: Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn?

People: Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone;
a new life has begun.

People: In Jesus Christ we are claimed, and we are loved! We are the very children of God!

***THE ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE Hymn 298** *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

There's a wideness in God's mercy, Like the wideness of the sea;

There's a kindness in God's justice, Which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earth's sorrows Are more felt than up in heaven;

There is no place where earth's failings Have such kindly judgment given.

***THE PASSING OF PEACE**

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE PROCLAMATION

THE MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

Children in Kindergarten through 5th grade will be dismissed to their Sunday Spirit Classes.

Please see announcement for full details.

ANTHEM *Teach Me, O Lord* Thomas Attwood

THE SCRIPTURE READING Luke 15:1-32

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *A Time to Waste and a Time to Spend* Heather Brown-Huston

***HYMN 172**

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

THE SENDING

THE PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*or "Our Creator"

THE PRESENTATION OF THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The Offertory

Let Thy Merciful Ears O Lord

Thomas Weelkes

***THE DOXOLOGY and PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**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.**

- or -

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

HYMN 361

How Firm a Foundation

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Amen in D

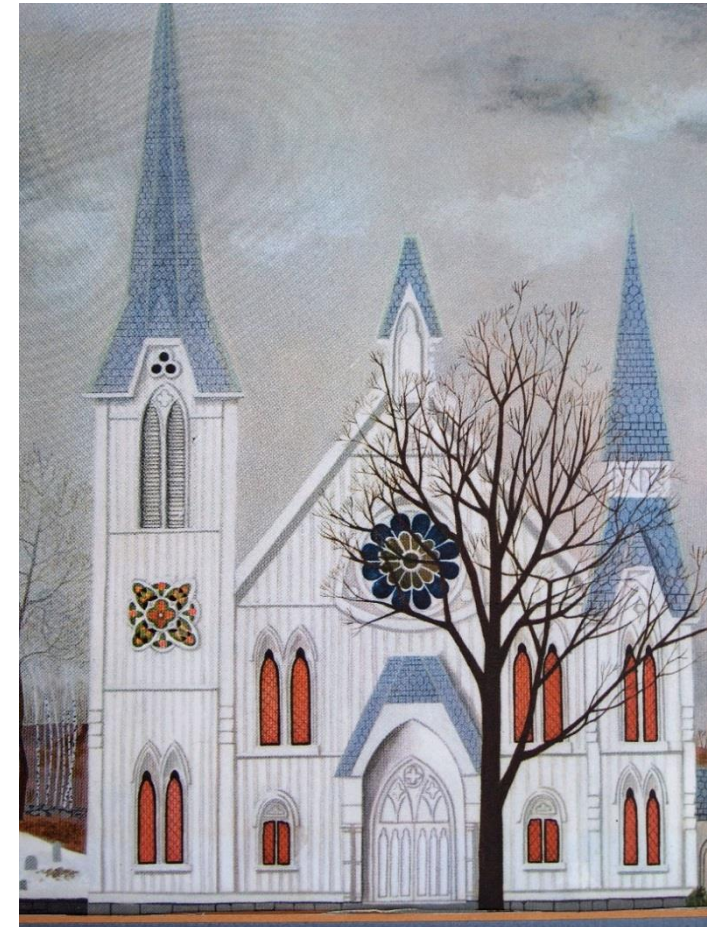
James McGregor

POSTLUDE

I Shall Not Abandon God

Johann Krebs

*Please stand.



The Rev. Patrick Vaughn, Pastor
The Rev. Heather Brown-Huston, Minister for Congregational Life
John Lettieri, Director of Music
Kathy DiBiasi, Director of Educational Ministries
The Rev. Leslie Mott, Coordinator for Spirituality and Practice

Progressive. Inclusive. More than just Sundays.
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM
Church School & Childcare 10:00 AM

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