

**New St. Peter's Presbyterian Church**  
**Celebration of Worship**  
**December 23, 2018**

**Striking of the Hour**     *“Joy to the World”*

**Call to Worship** (Titus 1)

To the pure, all things are pure. But to the defiled and unbelieving, nothing is pure; but both their minds and their consciences are defiled.

**Liturgy of the Word** (Mark 7; *The Definition of Chalcedon*, 451 AD; Galatians 4)

There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him. **Our God does not only create the body, but the heart and soul as well.** The Son of God took on both a body and soul that He might fully redeem us and restore us to fellowship with the Father. **For when the fullness of time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.**

**Invocation**

**The Lord's Prayer** (Matthew 6)

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name.  
Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we also  
forgive our debtors.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.  
Amen.**

**Hymn:** *“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”*

**Hymn:** *“What Glory Now Our Eyes Have Seen”*

**Confession of Sin and Plea for Pardon** (Matthew 11 and Luke 11)

O Father, the Lord Jesus is gentle and lowly of heart. He gives rest to all of us who are heavy laden. **We confess that not only do we load ourselves down with burdens too heavy to carry, but we also seek to unnecessarily shame others. Out of hypocrisy, we have misjudged Your law and have given our own desires more attention than Your call to love You above all else**

**and to live justly with others. We fear others more than You and so dress up what is seen more than we seek the purification of our unseen hearts. The Lord Jesus pronounces warnings upon such self-righteousness, so give us Your Spirit to help us repent of our socially acceptable sin and to know the rest of His grace.**

*Worshippers may continue to confess their sins in silence.*

### **Assurance of Pardon (Romans 3)**

Beloved, now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and Prophets bear witness to it. **This is the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and are justified by His grace as a gift through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. For through Christ God has shown Himself just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. Amen.**

### **Old Testament Reading**

A reading from Samuel the prophet: God reveals Himself to be Israel's Rock of help as they turn to Him with true repentance and sacrifice. (1 Samuel 7:3-14)

### **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

May the peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

### **Doxology** *"Joy to the World"*

**Sermon:** *"Ebenezer"* (Luke 11:37-54)

### **Offerings and Alms (Diaconate)**

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you?  
**To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.**

**Hymn:** *"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent"*

**Hymn:** *"I Will Glory in My Redeemer"*

### **Parting Liturgy (Revelation 3, 1 Samuel 7, and John 15)**

Church, the Son of Man is also the Holy One, the True One, who has the words of life. **He has the key of David and He opens what no one can shut, and He shuts what no one can open. He is our Rock of Help and He gives the Helper, the Spirit of Truth, to all who believe.**

**Benediction** (Revelation 19)

Now to our God, the faithful, true and wise Father who gave us His beloved Son to redeem us from sin, be honor, glory and praise forever through the one born King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

**Come quickly, Lord Jesus! Amen.**