

Celebration of Worship

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 16, 2017

9:30 A.M.

We welcome you to worship. We are glad that you are here! Nursery and Preschool care is available if you need it. The Young and Young at Heart are welcomed to the front early on for a special time in the service. Please sign the Friendship Pads so that we can get to know you better, and join us for lemonade in the Narthex after the service.

Thought for Reflection

“Is it possible that the message of Jesus was less like an advertising slogan – obvious and loud – and more like a poem whose meaning only comes subtly and quietly to those who read slowly, think long and deeply, and refuse to give up?”

Brian McLaren

God Invites Us to Worship

WELCOME AND GREETING

PRELUDE *He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought* Hayes

RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 119:105-112* p. 495

* Please stand, if you are able.

* OPENING PRAISE SONGS *Shine, Jesus, Shine* Screen
Sanctuary
Praise Team

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WORDS FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

Message *Do You Have the Spirit?*

Prayer

Children in Kindergarten and older remain in worship with their families.

God Offers Grace and Forgiveness

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (responsively)

Leader: Lord, we have betrayed you by following our own way.

People: We have denied you by fearing to follow yours.

Leader: And we have mocked you by not taking your death seriously.

People: Lord, we are lost. Let your forgiveness find us.

Leader: Hold us in your strong arms and give us new life.

People: Live in us and with us day by day, that together we may make a world that is new.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear these words from *Psalm 103*: “*The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.*”

All: Let us thank God for God’s abundant mercy and grace! Amen.

SONG RESPONSE *Create In Me a Clean Heart* Screen

God Speaks through the Word

GOSPEL LESSON *Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23* p. 794

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Ephesians 4:2-6* p. 951

SONG *Christ, Be Our Light* Screen

SERMON *What a Real Christian Looks Like:* Part 2 of 4
What Are We Becoming?
Rev. Dr. Lawrence J. De Vuyst

We Offer Our Gifts and Prayers

THE MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Peasant’s Song* Grieg

DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts/debtors)

God Sends Us Out to Serve

* BENEDICTION *Words from St. Patrick’s Breast Plate*

* CLOSING SONG *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* Screen

* POSTLUDE *Fantasia on “Duke Street”* Paxton