

Celebration of Worship

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

October 8, 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 coffee in the Narthex after the service.

Thoughts for Reflection

"I will try...to be my own silence; and this is difficult. The whole world is secretly on fire...How can a person be still or listen to all things burning? How can he dare to sit with them when all of their silence is on fire?"

Thomas Merton

"Talking to God, I felt, is always better than talking about God; those pious conversations – there is always a touch of self-approval about them."

Therese of Lisieux

WELCOME

RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE *Allegro from "Sonatina"* Cundick

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively by verse)
Psalm 116 p. 491

(Leader reads the odd verses and the congregation responds with the even.)

* Please stand, if you are able.

* HYMN *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!* # 145

WORDS FROM THE MISSION FIELD Dr. Jody Collinge

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOR THE YOUNG AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

Message Dr. Jody Collinge
Prayer

(Children and Youth are dismissed for Sunday School.)

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON *Jeremiah 15:15, 17-18* The Message

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON *Philippians 4:1-9* p. 955

SERMON *Seeking the Face of God*
Part 1 of a Series on Prayer, extending through Advent
Rev. Dr. Lawrence J. De Vuyst

AN AFFIRMATION (in unison)

God's Rule of Grace

We believe in God, Creator of all things, Ruler of all that is and is yet to come. God is transforming the world to the place of God's justice and mercy.

We follow Jesus, who taught and healed, who died and rose, revealing God's abundant grace. He sent disciples out into the world to heal, to proclaim the good news of God's grace, and to participate in the Reign of God in all that we do. He reigns in love over all creation, and holds all accountable to their faithfulness to God's rule of grace.

We rely upon the unfailing grace of God, the presence of the Holy Spirit, the community of the church as the body of Christ, the unity of all believers, the power of forgiveness, the reality of the resurrection and the alluring blessing of eternal life.

Therefore, we devote ourselves to lives of daily prayer, study, service and reflection, following Jesus our Master, for the sake of the transformation of the world by the grace of God.

* HYMN *We Gather Together* # 559

THE MORNING OFFERING

OFFERTORY *The Heavens are Telling* Beethoven
Chancel Choir

The heavens are telling the Lord's endless glory,
Through all the earth His praise is found.
The seas re-echo the marvelous story: O man, repeat that glorious sound!
The starry hosts He doth order and number,
He fills the morning's golden springs,
He wakes the sun from his night-curtained slumber;
O man, adore the King of kings! O man, adore the King of kings!

The heavens are His and the earth knows His favor,
His power in all things thou dost see;
The Lord of hosts who forever and ever Thy God and Father still shall be.
He is thy Maker whose love shall not waver, a God of wisdom, ever kind;
Praise Him and love Him with all thy endeavor,
In Him salvation shalt thou find, in Him salvation shalt thou find!

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts/Debtors)

- * HYMN *God Is Here!* # 461
- * BENEDICTION
- * POSTLUDE *Fugue* Pachelbel