

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is our God, the Lord alone.

**You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart,
and with all your soul, and with all your might.**

Beloved, let us love one another.

We love because God first loved us.

Let us worship God.

*OPENING PRAYER

God and Father of all, you have willed that the last shall be first, and you have made a little child the measure of your kingdom. Give us that wisdom which is from above, so we may understand that, in your sight, the one who serves is the greatest of all. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

*HYMN # 304

Jesus Loves Me!

JESUS LOVES ME

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Lord our God, you call us to proclaim the gospel, but we remain silent in the presence of evil. You call us to be reconciled to you and one another, but we are content to live in separation. You call us to seek the good of all, but we fail to resist the powers of oppression. You call us to fight pretensions and injustice, but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near. Forgive us, O Lord. Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit, and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, O Holy Spirit, and open our hearts to your word. Open our ears to your Wisdom as she sings to us of your goodness. Open our mouths so that we may breathe in your hope and breathe out your love. Open our minds that we might be challenged by your call. Open us up, so that we may be opened up for the sake of the world. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a (p. 230, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 1

Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

Their delight is in the law of the Lord, on which they meditate day and night.

They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.

It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.

For the Lord knows the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked is doomed. Amen

SECOND READING: Mark 9:30-37 (p. 45, New Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON

*HYMN # 421

The Church of Christ in Every Age

WAREHAM

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the Belhar Confession):

We believe that the unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; [...] that true faith in Jesus Christ is the only condition for membership of this church.

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

MOMENT FOR MISSION

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

My Faith looks up to Thee
Laura McHugh, Soprano
Noel Edwards, Tenor

arr.W.K. Bassford

*DOXOLOGY

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

OLD HUNDREDTH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LORD'S PRAYER

(see insert)

SENDING

*HYMN # 386

AZMON

O for a World

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



ORDER OF WORSHIP
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEASON OF PEACE

September 23, 2018
Presbyterian Church in Needham