

**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

February 4, 2018

11:00 A.M.

Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.

GATHERING TO PRAISE

PRELUDE

"Passacaglia & Fugue"

J.S. Bach

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God did not wait until the world was ready.

All: God did not wait until everyone was listening.

One: God came to a world that was broken and to people who were broken.

All: God came to those who were grieving, crying out for help and release.

One: God did not wait for the perfect time.

All: God came when the need was deep and great.

One: God did not wait until hearts were pure and people were holy.

All: Instead, God came in love to a world marked with sin.

One: God came in a time like ours in the mystery of the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ.

All: And so God still comes.

One: May each one of us be comforted – body, mind, heart and soul- by the God who is with us and bring us hope.

*HYMN

"God is Here"

No. 660

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN & PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

"Where Children Belong"

(congregation sings)

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

CONNECTING WITH GOD IN PRAYER

*HYMN

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

No. 480 (vs. 1-3)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of love and power, we all know loss, but sometimes our losses leave us feeling inconsolable. Sometimes our losses cause us to doubt your presence and power. We feel alone and forsaken. And when things are really bad, O God, we blame you and shut the door of our heart to your grace. Forgive us, God, for the times we've held a pity to mark your inconsiderateness toward us. May our grief never so weigh us down that we no longer trust the foundation you've built for us or the light of hope you hold before us. Help us to recall that your son Jesus felt forsaken too and that you raised him up. Pour your Spirit upon us and strengthen us to share the grace we receive. Make us wounded healers. Amen.

Words of Assurance

We are never outside of God's grace and mercy. Hear the good news you are forgiven and freed to trust and hope and love again. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

No. 895

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

"Seek Ye The Lord"

J.V. Roberts

Phil Knapp, soloist

Seek ye the Lord while He may be found, call ye upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts, and return to the Lord; and He will have mercy, and abundantly pardon. Amen

SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Samuel 18: 31; 19: 8a

(NT p. 293)

Leader: The Word of God. All: For the People of God. **Leader: Thanks be to God.**

Passionate Jesus—Recipe for a Wise Passionate Life:

SERMON

"Living with Grief"

CELEBRATING HOLY COMMUNION

(see insert)

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Come forward as directed, where you will be given a piece of bread and which you may dip in the cup (gluten-free bread is also available). Please let an usher know if you cannot come forward so the elements can be brought to you. During this time you are invited to bring your offering forward to the plates available on the chancel. Those in the balcony may remain seated, servers will come to you. Our Stephen Ministers are positioned in the back of the sanctuary to offer a blessing prayer. You may stop there before or after receiving communion.

Communion Hymn "This is a Day of New Beginnings"

No. 383

*Doxology

No. 95

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.

*Prayer of Dedication

GOING FORTH TO SERVE

***HYMN OF COMMITMENT**

"Saranam, Saranam"

No. 523 (vs. 1-3)

*PASTORAL BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Lord, Let Us Now Depart In Peace"

Maurice Whitney

*POSTLUDE

"Festive Trumpet Tune"

David German