

TRADITIONAL WORSHIP  
COMMITMENT SUNDAY

October 28, 2018

11:00 A.M.

*Together in Christ, Reaching Beyond Our Doors.*

**GATHERING TO PRAISE**

PRELUDE

INTROIT

"We Thank You, Lord"

Sarah Miller

*Central Children's Choir*

WELCOME, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GETTING ACQUAINTED

*Please take a moment to fill out the Attendance Card as it is passed.*

\*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*This is God's house – a place of peace where we befriend one another in the name of Christ. Greet those around you as a sign of God's peace and Christ's friendship.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Great crowds followed Jesus wherever he went. He healed, taught and blessed them, and declared they were God's favored ones.

**All: God, thank you for gathering us today. Heal our brokenness, and teach us the way of abundant life, and help us know how to live in your favor.**

Leader: Shape us into your blessed community and help us welcome others into your circle of love.

**All: In gratitude we lift our praise to you. Christ, come among us.  
Alleluia!**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

"How Can We Name a Love"

No. 111

A TIME TO CELEBRATE OUR CHILDREN

"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. 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

"Seek Ye First"

No. 405

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION and ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

**God of Creation, you are pure and holy. You designed a good creation and called us to be its stewards, gratefully caring for the life of the world. We confess that we have turned from your way. Instead of sharing the abundant gifts you give, we grab and hoard your gifts for ourselves. Forgive us for not trusting you and for not passing on the blessings we have received. Help us not to conform to the false world of greed and self-centeredness. Teach us**

**to be grateful and generous with your gifts so that the world may once again resemble the goodness you created it for. Pour your Spirit upon us this day and remake us into your likeness through the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. 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

"We Will Gather at The River"

Mary McDonald

We will gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod, with its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God? On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray, we will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day. We will gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river; gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God. Ere we reach the shining river, lay we every burden down; grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease; soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 5: 1-12; 7: 12

(NT p. 5; 7)

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

*Grateful: The Power of Giving Thanks*

SERMON

Week 4: "The Grateful Community"

### **BRINGING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD**

OFFERTORY HYMN

"For the Healing of the Nations"

No. 430

***This morning is Commitment Sunday, the day our congregation brings forward its financial pledges for the coming year. During this time you are invited to place your pledge cards in the baskets and your morning offering in the plates on the chancel. If you are visiting and you have a gift to give to God, you are invited to do that at this time. For those seated in the balcony, the ushers will pass the baskets along the pews. If walking is difficult for you, please signal your need for assistance to an usher.***

\*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.**

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Jesus said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." God, give us the grace to put these words into practice.

**People: We live not for ourselves but for you alone and to help others    experience your love. Open our eyes, hearts and resources so that we might invest in opportunities to serve as did Christ.**

**All: Receive our commitments this day. We give ourselves again to be grateful and generous stewards of your gifts. Amen.**

## **GOING OUT TO SERVE**

\*HYMN OF COMMITMENT    "When the Church of Jesus"                      No. 592

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION    "God Be With You Till We Meet Again"                      R.V. Williams

\*POSTLUDE

*You are invited to remain seated for the postlude as part of your worship experience.  
(If you choose to exit the sanctuary during the postlude, please do so quietly. Thank you.)*

\*All who are comfortable standing are invited to stand.