

LIFE IN THE CHURCH

Revs. Sanderford and Parks-Piatt (8:00)

Rev. Sanderford and Blair Buckley (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us worship the God of grace together.

All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.

One: A mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.

One: Yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all was leavened:

All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.

One: Treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid, then joyfully sells all he and buys the field:

All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.

One: A merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one of great value, sells all of his possessions and buys the pearl:

All: The kingdom of God is here and coming.

* HYMN 749

Come! Live in the Light!

WE ARE CALLED

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Adapted from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)

One: Loving God, you created all things good,

All: yet, we confess, we do not always trust you.

One: You made us in your image,

All: yet we rebel against you; we hide from our Creator.

One: You gave us your word, your promise,

All: yet we ignore your commandments, we accept lies as truth, we exploit neighbor and nature, we abandon your covenant.

One: And yet... You, God, chose us and you continue to choose us.

All: You act with mercy and compassion to redeem us again and again.

One: Forgive our arrogance; forgive our idol-making.

Open our ears to hear your voice, O God.

All: Set us free again, that we might put our hope, our trust, our faith only in you.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

*You are invited to share signs with one another of the peace we experience as forgiven people.**Greet one another saying, "The peace of Christ be with you," and respond, "And also with you."*

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rudi Ansbacher (8:00)

Mary McKeever (11:00)

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 16:13-20

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

Romans 12:1-8

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****SERMON**

Rev. Sanderford

*** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from the *Belhar Confession*)

We believe: that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world;

We believe: that the credibility of this message is seriously affected and its beneficial work obstructed when it is proclaimed in a land which professes to be Christian, but in which the enforced separation of people on a racial basis promotes and perpetuates alienation, hatred and enmity;

We believe: that any teaching which attempts to legitimate such forced separation by appeal to the gospel, and is not prepared to venture on the road of obedience and reconciliation, but rather, out of prejudice, fear, selfishness and unbelief, denies in advance the reconciling power of the gospel, must be considered ideology and false doctrine.

*** HYMN 726***Will You Come and Follow Me*

KELVINGROVE

WELCOME*Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to others sitting nearby.***OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS****Offertory***** Doxology**

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

*** Prayer of Dedication****SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION (8:00)***See Communion Card***Communion Music***During the distribution, please join the soloist when indicated:*

... Come to the table of ... This is God's table; it's not yours or mine.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

*** HYMN 321***The Church's One Foundation*

AURELIA

*** CHARGE AND BENEDICTION***** HYMN 80***You Shall Go Out with Joy*

THE TREES OF THE FIELD