

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

11:00 A.M. May 29, 2016

ORDER OF WORSHIP

2nd Sunday after Pentecost

Let us prepare for worship by praying,
meditating and listening to the organ prelude.

The Ringing of the Church Bell

The Prelude

The Welcome and Concerns of the Church

The Choral Introit

THE GATHERING

*The Call to Worship

Leader: Sing a new song to God, all the earth.
Bless God's name from day to day.

**People: God is doing marvelous works among us.
Let all the nations declare the glory of God.**

Leader: Our God is to be praised as Creator of all things.
Let us turn away from our idols to worship God.

**People: Honor, majesty, beauty, and strength belong to God.
Let us worship together in God's sanctuary.**

Leader: Tremble before God, all people and nations.
God will judge us all with righteousness and truth.

**People: Let the heavens be glad; let the earth rejoice.
God is with us and will answer our prayers.**

*The Hymn No. 21

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

*The Prayer of Confession

God of all people, forgive us for claiming to be Christians when our faith is so shallow and our good works so limited. We have not dared to trust you fully. We have not expected your promises to be fulfilled among us. We have not accepted the freedom that is ours in Christ Jesus. Instead, we have guarded our own interests, relied on limited understandings and lingering doubts, reined in our emotions, and settled for a lukewarm relationship that we do little to cultivate. O God, forgive us and draw us to you. Amen.

*Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Let the heavens be glad; let the earth rejoice. God answers prayer. What we have truly prayed with conviction has been heard by God. Remember that Jesus Christ gave life itself for our sins, to set us free from the evil of our present time.

People: The good news is ours to receive, to integrate into our lives, and to pass on to others.

Leader: Accept your forgiveness and sing a new song to God! Amen.

THE WORD

The Children's Time

The Choral Anthem

"God of the Sparrow"

The Prayer of Illumination

The Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 96

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

The Sermon

"Creation's Doxology"

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

The Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

The Choral Response

**The Affirmation of Faith: A Portion of Brief Statement of Faith*

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families on the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or death can separate us from the love of God in Jesus our Lord. Glory be to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**The Gloria Patri*

The Bringing of the Tithes, Offerings and Gifts

The Offertory

*The Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

*The Hymn No. 456

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”

*The Charge and Benediction

Congregation Response

All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small,

All things wise and wonderful: The Lord God made them all.