

GATHERING

PRELUDE

* CALL TO WORSHIP

A Brief Statement of Faith

In life and in death we belong to God.

**Through the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit,**

we trust in one triune God, the Holy One of Israel,

whom alone we worship and serve.

Let us worship God.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of freedom, God of love, God of new life: we gather here as a community to learn about your love. We want to love one another, and we want to love you. We know that those things go hand in hand. Help us to be your loving people. We pray in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN #356

NETTLETON

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, you love us, but we have not loved you. You call, but we have not listened. We walk away from neighbors in need, wrapped in our own concerns. We condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

A Brief Statement of Faith

We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.

The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,

Sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,

And binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed,

claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,

to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying "Come, Lord Jesus!"

With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Glory to be the Father, to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from your mouth. Make us hungry for this heavenly food, that it may nourish us today in the ways of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Exodus 3:1-15 (p. 50 Old Testament)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 105

Give thanks to the Lord and call upon God's name; make known the deeds of the Lord among the peoples.

Sing to the Lord, sing praises, and speak of all God's marvelous works.

Glory in God's holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Search for the Lord and the strength of the Lord; continually seek the face of God.

Remember the marvels God has done, the wonders and the judgements of God's mouth,

O offspring of Abraham, God's servant, O children of Jacob, God's chosen.

RECOVENANTING PRAYER
COMMISSIONING OUR TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28 (p. 18 New Testament)
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*HYMN (see insert)

Will You Come and Follow Me?

KELVINGROVE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(see insert)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Teach me, O Lord

Douglas Nolan

*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.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(see insert)

SENDING

*HYMN #302

I Danced in the Morning

SIMPLE GIFTS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



ORDER OF WORSHIP FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 10, 2017
Presbyterian Church in Needham