

GATHERING

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Scots Confession

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave,
whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust.

Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible;
one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

Let us worship God.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the ages, you call the church to keep watch in the world and to discern the signs of the times. Grant us the wisdom which your Spirit bestows, that with courage we may proclaim your prophetic word, and complete the work that you have set before us; through your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

WELCOME

*HYMN #460

GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

*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

The Scots Confession

The notes of the true Kirk, therefore, we believe, confess, and avow to be:
first, the true preaching of the Word of God, in which God has revealed himself to us, as the writings of the prophets and apostles declare;
must be associated the Word and promise of God to seal and confirm them in our hearts;

and lastly, ecclesiastical discipline uprightly ministered, as God's Word prescribes, whereby vice is repressed and virtue nourished.

Then wherever these notes are seen and continue for any time, be the number complete or not, there, beyond any doubt, is the true Kirk of Christ, who, according to his promise, is in its midst.

This is not that universal Kirk of which we have spoken before, but particular Kirks, such as were in Corinth, Galatia, Ephesus, and other places where the ministry was planted by Paul and which he himself called Kirks of God.

*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 12:1-14 (p. 58 Old Testament)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 149

Hallelujah! Sing to the Lord a new song; sing praise to God in the congregation of the faithful.

Let Israel rejoice in their Maker; let the children of Zion be joyful in their Sovereign.

Let them praise God's name in the dance; let them sing praise to the Lord with timbrel and harp.

For the Lord takes pleasure in the chosen people and adorns the poor with victory.

Let the faithful rejoice in triumph; let them be joyful on their beds.

Let the praises of God be in their throat and a two-edged sword in their hand;

To wreak vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples;

To bind their rulers in chains and their nobles with links of iron;

To inflict on them the judgement decreed; this is glory for all God's faithful people.

Hallelujah!

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20 (p. 20 New Testament)
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE
SERMON

*HYMN #334

When Israel Was in Egypt's Land

GO DOWN MOSES

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(see insert)

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy:
Hear our prayer.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Gary Hallquist and Benjamin Harlan

All Praise and Honor

*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.**

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*LORD'S PRAYER

(see insert)

SENDING

*HYMN #563

Lift Every Voice and Sing

LIFT EVERY VOICE

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



**ORDER OF WORSHIP
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

September 17, 2017
Presbyterian Church in Needham