

ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
Summer 2017

July 23, 2017

10:30 a.m.

\* *Stand if you are able*

**Bold:** Said by all

*All hymns, scriptures and congregational prayers are projected.*

*Musical Prelude*

**CALLED TO WORSHIP**

\* Entry of the Word

Welcome and Announcements

**Call to Worship:**

One: Be still!

**All: We come to quiet ourselves in this haven of holiness.**

One: Be still and know ...

**All: We come to discern the Word which can set us free.**

One: Be still and know that God is

**All: Our Hope, our Help, our Refuge, and our Redeemer.**

Gathering Hymn: *"God, We Praise You For The Morning"*

(N.B.P. #436)

**Prayer of Adoration:**

**Prayer of Confession (in unison):**

Lord, spare me from the comfort that would sedate me,  
from the certainty that would dull me,  
from the beauty that would blind me to injustice,  
from the peace that would hide the world's grief from me,  
from the security that would frighten me from the edge of you.  
Grant me the blessing to be unfinished, discomfited, unknowing,  
to be homesick in this world for the one within it,  
to ache for your little ones,  
to grieve with the Beloved,  
to be powerless for your grace,  
to empty myself into your heart.

Lord, spare me from my wishes, that I may be free for you.

Spare me from my little self, that I may be my divine self.

Spare me from my life, that, dying, I may become yours. Amen.

*(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

**Assurance of Pardon:**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ:**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Choir Anthem:

\*Children's Hymn: *"Hope Is A Star"*

(N.B.P. #119)

Children's Story (children Grade 9 & under leave for Sunday School)

## THE WORD PROCLAIMED

**Prayer for Illumination** (in unison): Startle us, O God, with your truth and open our hearts and our minds to your wondrous love. Speak your word to us; silence in us any voice but your own and be with us now as we turn our attention, our minds and our hearts, to you, in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Scriptures:**    **Genesis 28:10-19a**  
                          **Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24**  
                          **Romans 8:12-25**  
                          **Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43**

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

### SERMON:

*Silent Reflection*

## OUR RESPONSE

\*Hymn of Response: *"Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ"*

(N.B.P. #563)

\* **Declaration of Faith** (in unison):

**We belong to God, eternal and infinite,  
Creator of all things and all that is to come.  
We follow Christ, who comes to us from God,  
and reveals God to us.  
He heals people and transforms lives,  
and calls us to join in his ministry.  
He was crucified, died, and was raised again by God,  
and reigns over all Creation;  
and he bids us to die and rise with him  
in the service of the healing of the world.  
We are moved by the Holy Spirit,  
together with the communion of saints,  
as members of the Body of Christ, God's holy universal church.  
We are confident in the forgiveness of sin,  
the power of resurrection and the reality of eternal life.  
In all things it is our desire to follow Christ,  
by the grace of the Holy Spirit, for God's glory.  
Amen.**

*(Steve Garnaas-Holmes)*

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings, Offertory

\* Doxology

(N.B.P. #79)

**Prayer of Dedication** (responsive):

**ONE:** We long for the time  
when the meek shall inherit the earth  
and all who hunger and thirst after justice  
shall be satisfied,

and we believe that, despite the persistence of evil,  
now is always the time  
when more good can be done  
and we can make a difference.

**ALL: May it be so, through the offering of these gifts  
and the offering of our lives. Amen.**

*(Prayer for Justice and Peace, Iona)*

Prayers of the People  
The Lord's Prayer

## SENDING

- \* Parting Hymn: *"Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer"* (N.B.P. #651)
- \* Benediction:
- \* *"The Lord Bless You and Keep You"* (N.B.P. #619)
- \* Exit of the Word Musical Postlude