

# MORNING WORSHIP

August 21, 2016

9:30 A.M.

---

## PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "The Heavens Declare" (Ps. 19)

Marcello

## ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

\* Call to Worship:

Psalm 63:1–4

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you;  
**my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.**

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

**Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.**

So I will bless you as long as I live;

**I will lift up my hands and call on your name.**

\* Hymn: PH 238, vv. 1, 4, 5

"We Come, O Christ, to You"

EASTVIEW

\* God's Greeting:

Grace and peace be to you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**Who made heaven and earth.**

Blessed be God,

**And blessed is his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

\* Prayer of the Day:

**O gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you, eyes to behold you, ears to listen for your Word, a heart to love you, and a life to proclaim you, through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

\* Response: PH 307, vv. 1, 2

"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"

QUEBEC

## CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

Isaiah 55:6–7

Prayer of Confession:

**God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from you and turned aside from your way. We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure when we are stained and great when we are small. We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth. Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin. Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Psalms 103:8–12

God's Will for Our Lives:

Hebrews 11:1–6, 12:1–3

Response: PH 496

"My Lord, I Did Not Choose You"

CALCUTTA

Congregational Prayer

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

\* Hymn: Bulletin pp. 3–4

"Speak, O Lord"

SPEAK, O LORD

\* Prayer

Scripture Reading:

John 3:1–10, 7:40–53; Mark 15:42–47 (p. 1051)

Sermon: *Nicodemus and Joseph: Pharisees to Followers*

Theme: It's Never Too Late for Transforming Grace

Prayer:

**God of Abraham,**

**In your call is a claim—that I am yours.**

**Thank you for the grace that has found me and makes me willing and ready,  
with my whole heart, to live for you,  
to go where you send, to follow where you lead.**

**As you have blessed me, make me a blessing.**

**In the name of the One to whom I belong, amen.**

\* Hymn: Bulletin pp. 5–6

"Amazing Grace, My Chains Are Gone"

MY CHAINS ARE GONE

## THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

\* Offertory Prayer

Offerings: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "In Thee Is Gladness"

Burkhardt

## BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

\* Blessing:

Celtic Daily Prayer

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you, wherever He may send you.

May He guide you through the wilderness, protect you through the storm.

May He bring you home rejoicing at the wonders He has shown you.

May He bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

\* Benediction:

II Corinthians 13:14

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship  
of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **Amen.**

\* Doxology: PH 325 vv. 1, 4

"Go Forth for God" (tune: Tell Out, My Soul")

WOODLANDS

Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;  
be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,  
in God's good Spirit daily to increase,  
till in the kingdom we behold his face.

Go forth for God, go to the world in joy,  
to serve God's people every day and hour;  
and, serving Christ, your every gift employ,  
rejoicing in the Holy Spirit's power.

\* Postlude: "Toccata"

Sweelinck