

Fairlawn Christian Reformed Church

# MORNING WORSHIP

September 4, 2016

9:30 A.M.

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## PREPARATION AND PRAISE

Prelude: "Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God"  
"Nothing But the Blood"

Lafferty/arr. Bock  
Lowry/arr. Kingsmore

## ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Silent Prayer and Preparation

\* Call to Worship: Psalm 145:10–13

All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your faithful shall bless you.

**They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power.**

They make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

**Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.**

\* Hymn: Bulletin pp. 7-8 "Creation Sings the Father's Song"

Getty, Townend, 2008, Thank You Music, CCLI 1099351

\* 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 God, you summon the day to dawn, you teach the morning to waken the earth. For you the valleys shall sing for joy, the trees of the field shall clap their hands. For you the kings of the earth shall bow, the poor and the persecuted shall shout for joy. Your love and mercy shall last forever, fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise. Great is your name. Great is your love. Amen.**

\* Response: PH 461, vv. 1, 2 "Beautiful Savior"

ST. ELIZABETH

Beautiful Savior! King of creation! Son of God and Son of Man!

Truly I'd love thee, truly I'd serve thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in flowers of blooming spring;  
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer; he makes our sorrowing spirit sing.

## CONFESSION AND PRAYER

Call to Confession:

Hebrews 4:15–16

Prayer of Confession:

**O Lord our God, we love you, but we are so often poor at following you. You call us to love you with everything that we have. We love you some of the time and not very well. You know our failures. We know them too. Hear now and forgive the sins that we confess before you.**

Silent Prayer and Confession

Minister: Lord, in your mercy,

All: **Hear our prayer. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon:

Psalms 65:1–4

God's Will for Our Lives:

Matthew 28:18–20

Response: PH 209, vv. 1, 3

"Seek Ye First the Kingdom"

LAFFERTY

Congregational Prayer

## THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

\* Hymn: PH 425

"Creator Spirit, by Whose Aid"

MELITA

\* Prayer

Scripture Reading:

Matthew 6:19–34 (p. 960)

Psalms 131 (p. 615)

Sermon: *First Things First*

Theme: Seeking God's Kingdom Over All

Prayer:

**Great God, make your church a magnificent witness to the nations, a wise and understanding people. Mark us with generous faith—a community that follows your commands and avoids evil, a people who single-mindedly love you and their neighbors. May your church be the cause of joy in the world. In Christ's name, amen.**

\* Hymn: Bulletin p. 6

"My Only Comfort"

RESIGNATION

## THE OFFERING OF TRIBUTE

\* Offertory Prayer

Offerings: Fairlawn General Fund

Offertory: "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

Townend/arr. Hayes

\* Doxology: PH 638 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

OLD HUNDREDETH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.