

trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

**Sermon** Rev. Sharon Carter

### Responding in Faith

**Affirmation of Faith** from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, PCUSA  
**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 the one triune God, the Holy One of Israel, whom alone we worship and serve... In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily**

### Notes

**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.**

### The Service of Giving

Prayer of Dedication Offering Music  
**+Response** *Glory Be to the Father*  
#577

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns Prayers of the People

Response:  
L: We pray to you, O God:  
P: Hear our prayer.

### Going into the World

**+Hymn** *We All are One in Mission*  
STF2243  
**+Charge and Benediction**  
**+Postlude**

MISSION



FELLOWSHIP

WORSHIP



THE BODY OF CHRIST



Community of Faith Presbyterian Church

July 29, 2018

+Stand as you are able

*Leader reads plain type, Congregation reads bold*

## Preparing Ourselves

### Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements

### Lighting of the Christ candle

### +Call to Worship/ Gathering

#### Prayer

L: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

**P: We shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, O God, and tell of your power**

L: So that all people shall know of your mighty deeds and the glory of your kingdom

**P: So that all people shall know that you are faithful in your words and gracious in your deeds.**

Let us pray: **Eternal God, protector of all who put their trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy; fill us with your mercy and your grace, that, with you to rule and guide, we may use the good things of this present life that we do not neglect those of eternal worth. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray in this way:**

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.*

**+Hymn** *When Morning Guilds the Skies* #487

### Call to Confession

The grace of God overflows for us through Christ Jesus, who came into the world to heal our brokenness. Let us now make our confession of sin together:

#### Prayer of Confession

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have**

**How do you feel when you get a letter from a friend? When you get a chain letter? When you get a form letter from a relative at Christmas time?**

done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are and direct what we shall be, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your holy name. (moment of silence)

### Assurance of Forgiveness

L: When we follow the way of Jesus we take on a new life—a life in which our compassionate love for others is renewed. In this new life we are reconnected with God and our fellow human beings, living at peace with all.

**P: A life lived in Jesus Christ brings us closer to God and those around us, and we are healed and renewed. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Song** *Spirit of the Living God* #322

### The Peace

L: As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

**P: And also with you.**

### Special Music

## Hearing the Word

### Prayer for Illumination

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as

**What does it mean that we are adopted into God's family? Where does Jesus Christ fit into the picture, according to Paul?**

the scriptures are read and your word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

**Hymn** *Lord, I Want to be a Christian* #372

### Scripture Reading

**Ephesians 1:3-14** Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, to the saints who are in Ephesus and are faithful in Christ Jesus: <sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our