

*The basis of our congregation's common fellowship is comprehended in the following:*

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE that the Bible, both Old and New Testaments, are the inspired and eternal Word of God. These Scriptures are the revealed Will of God to mankind and are the only infallible guide to Christian faith and practice.

WE BELIEVE in one God, the Creator, Preserver, and Ruler of all things, infinite in being and perfect in justice, wisdom, holiness, truth and love. He exists eternally in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit; the same in substance, equal in power and glory.

WE BELIEVE that mankind was created in righteousness and holiness in the image of God, and his purpose was to glorify God. He was endowed with the power of rational and responsible choice, and through the test of his obedience, mankind fell from grace. He was alienated from God and now lives in sin. In sin, mankind is separated from God and unable to save himself; physically and spiritually.

WE BELIEVE that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior. As the eternal Son of God, Jesus took upon Himself human form. Since He was born of the virgin Mary, He perfectly united the divine and human nature. We believe that God provided salvation from sin for mankind through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ upon the cross. In this way, Jesus took upon Himself the penalty of our sin, and all who believe in Him are justified because of His sacrificial death. We believe that on the third day Jesus Christ rose from the dead; that He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God, where He intercedes for us until the time of His coming again. Then He will come personally and visibly to complete His saving work and to consummate the eternal plan of God.

WE BELIEVE in the ministry of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit reveals to us the things of Christ, convicts us of sin, calls us to repentance, justifies us before God and carries on the process of renewal. The work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the individual Christian and congregation is witnessed by the evidence of the fruit of the Spirit and the ministry of the gifts of the Spirit.

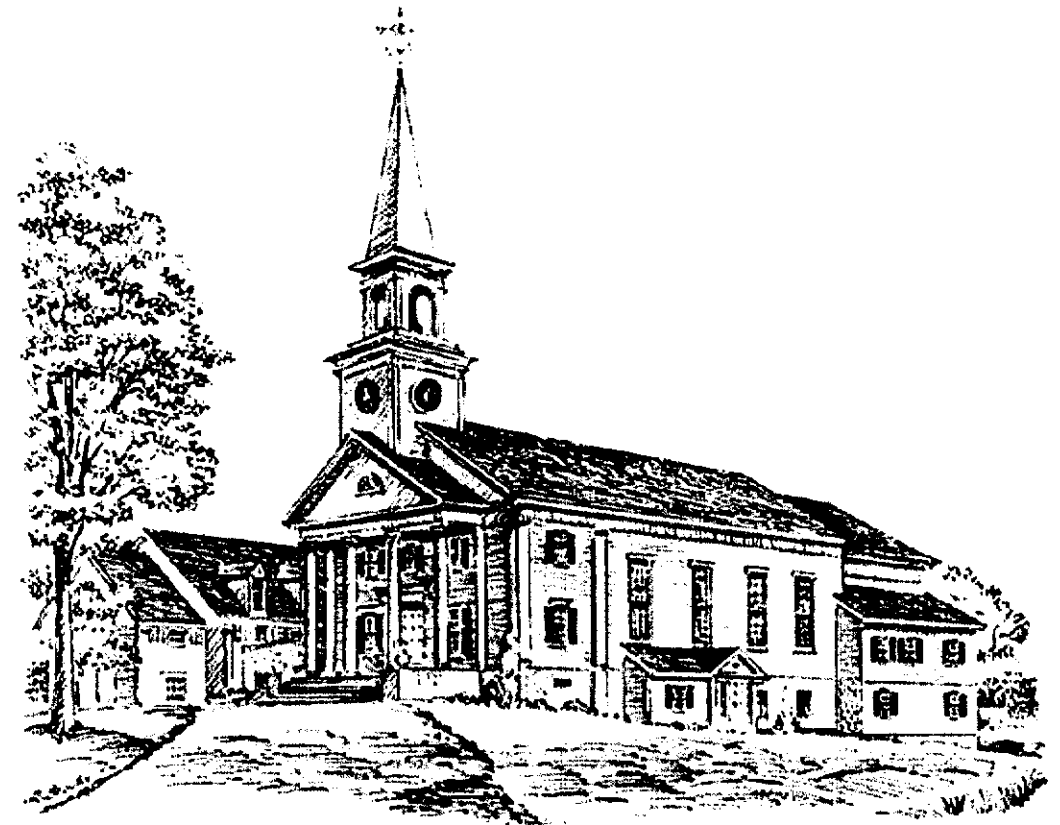
WE BELIEVE that salvation is wholly by grace, that God desires each person to seek Him, to repent of his sin, and to live a life characterized by obedience and holiness. We believe that those who are Christians are so not only in name but in nature. They have acknowledged Jesus Christ to be the Savior and Lord of their life and are growing in their knowledge of His Word and Will. The Christian life is a process of repentance and renewal that will not be complete until the consummation of the age.

WE BELIEVE He calls us into His church to accept the cost of discipleship. He requires us to be His servant in the service of mankind, to proclaim the Gospel to all the world and to resist the powers of evil. We are committed to observe the ordinance of baptism and the Lord's Supper, and to proclaim to a lost world that Jesus Christ is Savior and Lord.

*Service for the Lord's Day*

*10<sup>00</sup> AM*

*Sunday, the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, Year of Our Lord 2016*



*Welcome!*

**RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

*~ In the heart of Rye since 1726 ~*

*I rejoiced with those who said to me, Let us go up to the house of the Lord.*



Please use the opportunity afforded by the Prelude to prayerfully prepare for worship and assist us in establishing an air of reverence as the hour draws near.

Prelude: *Adagio from "Moonlight" Sonata* Hannah Reitz, violin L.V. Beethoven

(10<sup>00</sup> am) {Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

(#83) **Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! There's just something about that name! Master, Savior, Jesus! Like the fragrance after the rain. Jesus, Jesus, Jesus! Let all Heaven and Earth proclaim: Kings and kingdoms will all pass away, but there's something about that name!**

Scriptural Call to Worship: (from Psalm 40 ~ A Psalm of David)

I waited patiently for the LORD; He turned to me and heard my cry.

**He lifted me out of the slimy pit, out of the mud and mire; He set my feet on a rock and gave me a firm place to stand.**

He put a new song in my mouth, a hymn of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the LORD.

**Blessed is the man who makes the LORD his trust, who does not look to the proud, to those who turn aside to false gods.**

Sacrifice and offering You did not desire, but a body You have prepared for me; burnt offerings and sin offerings You did not require.


**Then I said, Here I am, I have come; it is written about me in the scroll. I desire to do Your will, O my God; Your law is within my heart.**

I proclaim righteousness in the great assembly; I do not refrain, as You know, O LORD.

**Do not withhold Your mercy from me, O LORD; may Your love and Your truth always protect me.**

\* Opening Hymn: *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* #1

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (forgive us our debts ...)

 **Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray: To see Thee more clearly, Love Thee more dearly, Follow Thee more nearly, Day by day.**

\* Those who are comfortably able, please stand. All others, please remain comfortably seated.

*Happy the people whose God is the Lord.*

Special Music: *Rêverie* Hannah Reitz, violin C. Debussy

Children's Moment

Offertory: *Meditation* D. Eliot

\* (#815) **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.**

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

*A Time for Everything* Ecclesiastes 3:1-14 (page 1037)

\* (#813) **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.**

*The Man with Leprosy* Matthew 8:1-4 (page 1507)

Sermon: *Bearing Witness Patiently or Giving Place for the Spirit*

\* Closing Hymn: *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* #355

Benediction

Postlude: *Simple Aveu* Hannah Reitz, violin F. Thomé

*I know that there is nothing better for us than to be happy and do good while we live. That everyone may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all his toil; this is the gift of God. ~ Ecclesiastes 3.12-13*

(Hearing-aid headphones are available at the sound booth in the rear of the sanctuary.)