

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

10⁰⁰ AM

Sunday, the 28th of February, 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 to the house of the Lord.

Happy the people whose God is the Lord.

{Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

Prelude: *Meditation from Thais* Hannah Reitz, violin by Massenet

Call to Worship & Psalm of the Day: *(from Psalm 8 ~ A Psalm of David)*

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth! who has set Your glory above the heavens.

Out of the mouth of babes and infants You have ordained praise because of Your enemies, to still the enemy and the avenger.

When I consider Your heavens, the work of Your fingers, the moon and the stars, which You have ordained;

What is man, that You are mindful of him? and the son of man, that You visit him?

For You have made him a little lower than the angels, and have crowned him with glory and honor.


You made him to have dominion over the works of Your hands; You have put all things under his feet:

All sheep and oxen, and the beasts of the field; The fowl of the air, and the fish of the sea, and whatever goes through the paths of the seas.

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is Your name in all the earth!

* Opening Hymn: *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* #688

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

 (see insert) *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.*

Agnus Dei with Holy Holy Holy Hannah Reitz, violin arr. Christopher Phillips

Children's Moment (after which the children gather for Sunday School)

Offertory: *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)* Hannah Reitz, violin arr. C. Phillips

* (#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

Made Alive In Christ

Ephesians 2:1-10 (page 1818)

* (#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.*

Jesus Forgives a Sinful Woman

John 8:1-11 (page 1661)

Sermon: *The First Stone*

* Closing Hymn: *Pure and Holy* #647

* Benediction

Postlude: *Sonatina in G, op. 100* Hannah Reitz, violin Anton Dvorak

Woman, where are those thine accusers? hath no man condemned thee? She said, No man, Lord. And Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more. ~ John 8.10