

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.

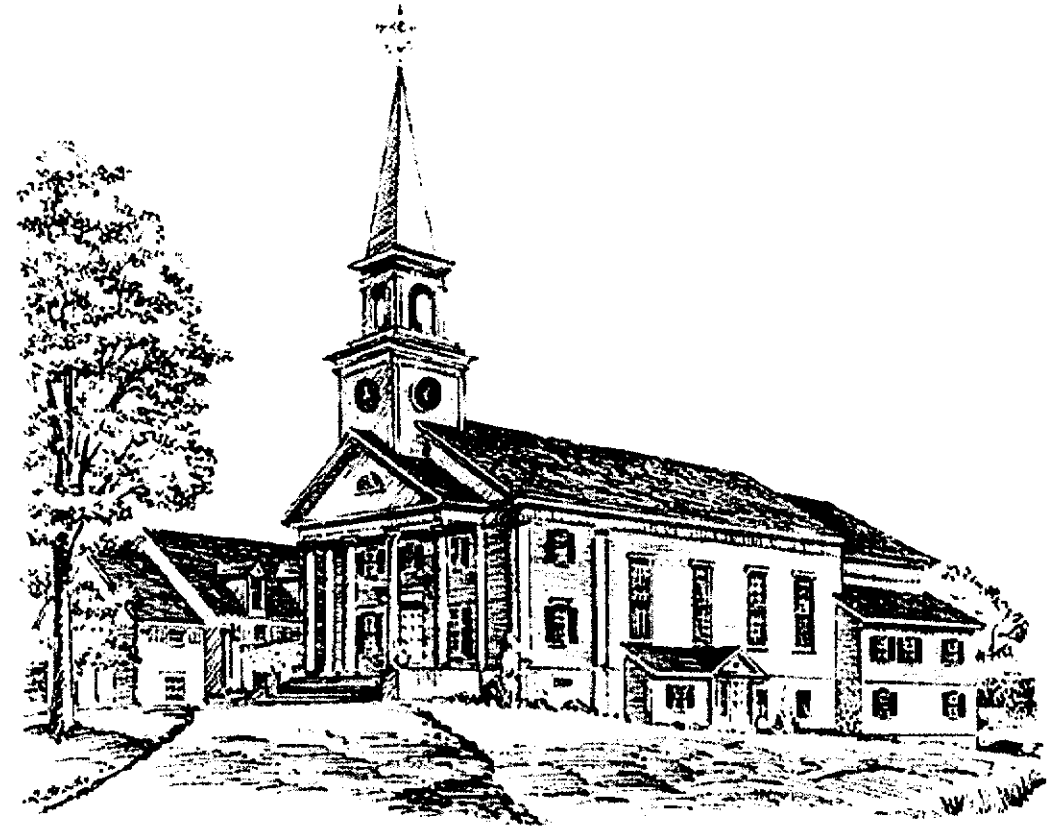
WE BELIEVE that salvation is wholly by grace, that God desires each person to seek Him, to repent of his sin, and to live a life characterized by obedience and holiness. We believe that those who are Christians are so not only in name but in nature. They have acknowledged Jesus Christ to be the Savior 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 15th of January, Year of Our Lord 2017



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 time afforded by the prelude to prayerfully prepare for worship.

Prelude: *This is My Father's World & Faith of our Fathers (In memory of Donna's Dad)*

(10⁰⁰ am) {Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

Scriptural Call to Worship: *(from Isaiah 42:5-12)*

This is what God the LORD says, He Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread out the earth and all that comes out of it, Who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it:

I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness.

I am the LORD; that is My name. I will not give My glory to another or My praise to idols.

See, the former things have taken place, and new things I declare; before they spring into being I announce them to you.

Sing to the LORD a new song, His praise from the ends of the earth, you who go down to the sea, and all that is in it, you islands, and all who live in them.

Let the desert and its towns raise their voices; let the settlements where Kedar lives rejoice.

Let the people of Sela sing for joy; let them shout from the mountaintops.

Let them give glory to the LORD and proclaim His praise in the islands.

* Opening Hymn: *That Beautiful Name* #266

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.*

Sing to the Lord! ♪♪ Hymn Sing ♪♪ (or, Make a Joyful Noise!)

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

Happy the people whose God is the Lord.

Children's Moment

Offertory: *Gospel and Spirituals Celebrating the life of Martin Luther King*

* ♪♪ *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.* (#815)

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

The Servant of the Lord

Isaiah 42:1-4 (page 1124)

* ♪♪ *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.* (#813)

Jesus Presented in the Temple

Luke 2:21-38 (page 1591)

Sermon: *Child of Promise and Hope*

* Closing Hymn: *Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne* #292

Benediction

Postlude: *Soon and Very Soon & Every Time I feel the Spirit* (Sing Along if you'd like!)

I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ~ Jeremiah 29.11

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