

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 29th 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: *French Suite No. 5 in G Loure, Sarabande* J.S. Bach

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

Choral Introit: *O Be Joyful in the Lord!* H. Friedell

Scriptural Call to Worship: *(from Psalm 65 ~ a song of David)*

Praise awaits You, O God, in Zion; to You our vows will be fulfilled. O You who hears prayer, to You all men will come.

When we were overwhelmed by sins, You forgave our transgressions.

Blessed are those You choose and bring near to live in Your courts! We are filled with the good things of Your house, of Your holy temple.

You answer us with awesome deeds of righteousness, O God our Savior, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

You formed the mountains by Your power, having armed Yourself with strength.

You stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations.

Those living far away fear Your wonders; where morning dawns and evening fades You call forth songs of joy.

You care for the land and water it, enriching it abundantly. The streams of God are filled with water to provide the people with grain, as You have ordained it.

You drench the furrows and level the ridges; You soften the land with showers, blessing its crops. You crown the year with bounty, and Your carts overflow with abundance.

The hills are clothed with gladness. The meadows are covered with flocks, and the valleys are mantled with grain; they shout for joy and sing!

* Opening Hymn: *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name* #16

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.

Choir Anthem: *Jesus, My Lord, My God, My All* L. Shackley

Children's Moment

Offertory: *Gift of Finest Wheat* R.E. Kreutz

* ♪♪ *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 Branch from Jesse Isaiah 11:1-9 (page 1076)

* ♪♪ *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)

The Boy Jesus at the Temple Luke 2:41-52 (page 1592)

Sermon: "... and a Little Child Shall Lead Them."

* Closing Hymn: *More Love to Thee* #634

Benediction

Postlude: *Andante mosso for Piano* F. Mendelssohn

The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them. ~ Isaiah 11.6

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