

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 23rd of July, Year of Our Lord 2017



Welcome!

RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
~ Celebrating God's Love 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: *Méditation*

L. Boëllmann

(10⁰⁰ am)

{Welcome, Announcements, & Greetings}

Call to Worship: *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* – Francis of Assisi
Elizabeth Henry, Mezzo-soprano

S. Temple

Scriptural Call to Worship: (from Psalm 87 ~ *A Song of the Sons of Korah*)

He has set His foundation on the holy mountain;

the LORD loves the gates of Zion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of God.

**I will see that Egypt and Babylon are among those who acknowledge Me,
Philistia too, and Tyre, along with Ethiopia.**

They will acknowledge and say, This one was born in Zion.

**Indeed, of Zion it will be said, This one and that one were born in her, and the
Most High Himself will establish her.**

The LORD will write in the register of the peoples: This one was born in Zion.

As they make music they will sing, All my fountains are in you.

* Opening Hymn: *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*

#400

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.

Trust in You Elizabeth Henry, Mezzo-soprano. M. Farren, L.A. Daigle, and P. Mabury

Children's Moment

Offertory

* ☩ 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.

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

Happy the people whose God is the Lord.

Prayer of Dedication of Tithes and Offerings

God Speed Hymn: *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

#602

Love

I Corinthians 13:1-13 (page 1786)

* ☩ *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 Washes His Disciples' Feet & Predicts His Betrayal Jn.13:1-5;12-30 (page 1673)

Sermon: *Imagine an Alternate Ending*

* Closing Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

#648

Benediction

Postlude: *March in D*

G.F. Handel

We welcome our guest soloist this morning, Elizabeth Henry, who graduated from
Portsmouth Christian Academy in June, and will be attending UNH this fall.

*He who has been forgiven little
loves little. ~ Luke 7:47*

Following the worship service, please join us at the Coffee Hour Fellowship in
the Fellowship Hall.

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